

How the world reacted to the dollar crisis

French Six to seek common policy

Cabinet to meet

From NESTA ROBERTS

Paris, August 16

France has not adopted an official position on the Common Market's monetary policy, but it is unlikely to do so until Wednesday, when M. Pompidou is interrupted by his Mediterranean holiday to preside over a restricted Cabinet meeting. The President was informed of the decision in a letter from Mr. Nixon.

At Wednesday's meeting, the Prime Minister, M. Chaban Delmas, the Minister of Economy and Finance, M. Giscard d'Estaing, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Schumann, will be joined by the Governor of the Bank of France and other financial officials. The deputy Governor of the Bank flew to London this afternoon to meet Mr. Paul Volcker, Under-Secretary of the United States Treasury.

Unofficially, the Nixon decision is seen as a sign of a realistic policy, indicating that the United States appreciates its true responsibilities. By coincidence, this morning, in a lengthy interview given to "L'Express", M. Giscard d'Estaing said it was not for him to say whether the dollar should be devalued, but he wanted people to understand that would be represented by the revaluation of other currencies, as suggested by some people.

It would touch all the countries of the world except the underdeveloped countries. From the political point of view, it would mean a kind of monetary solidarity in relation to the dollar. It was curious that the decision should be transferred to all the countries, while the United States, where the problem was the most serious, did nothing.

Statements today have included one from M. Paul Huelvel, president of the Patronat, the French employers' association. Though he claims to have expected some such move he is struck by the "radical" character of the steps taken. M. Huelvel has been on the occasion to urge upon France moderation in price and salary increases, in order to reinforce her effort in trade with the United States, where the import tax will, in theory, constitute an obstacle.

It is regrettable that the move, Mr. Horowitz said, is likely to have a beneficial effect on the American economy, and in turn on the Israeli.

Jerusalem, August 16

Israel's Finance Minister, Mr. Sapir and the Governor of the Bank of Israel, Mr. Horowitz met today to discuss possible cuts in American military aid. The Israelis were trying to find out whether Mr. Nixon's announcement of a 10 per cent cut in foreign aid applied to military aid programmes.

Israel last year received \$250 million in US financial aid and used \$208 million to finance military purchases including Phantom jets.

Commenting on the American move, Mr. Horowitz said it was likely to have a beneficial effect on the American economy, and in turn on the Israeli.

Independent economists said Israeli exports to the United States were in danger. Last year such exports totalled \$562 million, but this year they are expected to fall to \$400 million, a 29 per cent drop.

Officials say no devaluation of the Israeli pound is likely unless some of the country's major trading partners in Europe adjust their currencies to the new dollar rate.

Independent economists have called repeatedly for devaluation to correct the country's chronic balance of payments. The current rate of exchange is 3.5 Israeli pounds to the dollar.

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Brussels, August 16

The Common Market will generally welcome the American decision to float the dollar, provided that it leads to a solution of the present "international monetary chaos", diplomatic sources said today.

The Community's first concern, however, will be to decide on monetary policies uniting all six members, the sources said. The first step towards such a common policy will be an emergency meeting tomorrow of the Community's monetary committee, comprising the deputy Finance Ministers and deputy central bank governors of the member states.

The monetary committee meeting will be followed immediately by a meeting of the Commission, a spokesman announced today.

"In the present circumstances it appears that the member countries of the Community should adopt a common attitude to assure the defence of their interests and to contribute to the re-establishment of the international monetary system," the Commission said in a statement.

The meetings are expected to pave the way quickly for a full meeting of the Finance and Economics Ministers of the Six. The Belgian Finance Minister, Baron Snoy d'Oppers, called for such a meeting today as he flew home from holiday in Switzerland to consult with Belgian central bank officials.

American decisions made in the duty of the European Common Market to speed up its progress towards economic and monetary union.

Apart from the broader political implications of the American moves, Common Market Ministers will have to decide what to do about the Community's unit of account. Transactions within the Community, especially in agricultural support prices, are reckoned in units exactly equal to the US dollar. The Ministers must decide whether to change the value of the units.

The basic view of the semi-official news agency Cifra and broadcast on television, a spokesman for the Bank of Spain said:

"Tourists will not find themselves affected by alterations in the international money market."

However, his assurances were of no use to tourists who found that their dollars were either unwanted, or frequently exchanged at much less than the established inter-bank rates of 69.475 pesetas to the dollar.

A sampling of banks in Madrid showed that those willing to buy dollars were doing so at rates as low as 68 pesetas per dollar. Banks were willing to accept only green dollars and not cheques, except their own travellers' cheques.

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Tourist tribulation

From our Correspondent: Geneva, August 16

In the past week over two thousand million "hot" dollars have come into the country in spite of stern measures taken by the Swiss National Bank to freeze such transfers for 10 days.

Swiss banks were ordered afterwards to place all such accounts, in Swiss francs, with the Government. The speculator — individual or institutional — could hardly afford to leave his dormitory for a period which the National Bank said might be extended.

Swiss Air was demanding all payments in Swiss francs, but would take dollars at the rate of 3.50 francs — a 15 per cent devaluation.

In MADRID some private banks would not accept dollars in spite of instructions from the Bank of Spain to continue exchanging them for pesetas at normal rates.

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The EEC Commission is that Euro-

pean currency problems have been caused by the US.

"There is no fundamental disequilibrium among the currencies of the Six," one Commission official said today. "If something was wrong, it was the dollar."

American moves are seen as support for the European belief that the dollar was overvalued and that the US had an unacceptable trade imbalance and inflationary policies for which the rest of the world paid the bill.

"For the past four or five years the international monetary system has been in a state of chaos," one diplomat said today. "The American action is good if we can gain from it solutions to end that chaos."

The Common Market's own plans for economic and monetary union — including the setting up of a single European currency — have been held up since May, when West Germany and Holland set their currencies free of official parity against the dollar, because France withdrew from preparatory committees as a protest.

Since then France has joined Belgium and Luxembourg in establishing a two-tier system of money markets: one dealing in the dollar at the official rate for Government and commercial purposes, and a second handling all speculative money.

EEC Commission sources said today that the imposition of a temporary 10 per cent import surcharge was of less importance than the monetary measures.

One official said the Common Market countries, which have a \$13 billion a year trade account with the United States — would probably accept the surcharge as a necessary part of the American package.

Some European countries, however, are expected to seek an emergency meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade to discuss the surcharge. — UPL

There was no direct reference in Mr. Nixon's address to any immediate plan for cutting the number of American troops in Europe, although this would be an immediate way of reducing the dollar drain on the American balance of payments.

At the recent NATO ministerial meeting in Lisbon this was a topic of anxious discussion behind the scenes, because the American war problem was already well known and it was realised that the proposals by Senator Mansfield represented the view of a substantial section of American opinion, both in Congress and in the electorate at large.

But the American Secretary of State, Mr. Rogers, assured Sir Alec Douglas-Home and other NATO colleagues that Mr. Nixon realised the dangers of this course and would hold out against it. Mr. Rogers promised he would continue to defend this decision in policy discussions in Washington, and it would appear he has been able to do this successfully in the present crisis.

However, in London and other European capitals today there will still be some trepidation in ministries of defence and foreign affairs over the paragraph in the address which makes an oblique reference to the possibility of cuts in NATO forces in Europe.

After the President had spoken of the foreign aid programme which had rebuilt the shattered economies of European States after the last war, he said: "Today, largely with our help, they have regained their vitality and have become strong and confident nations. The time has come for them to bear their fair share of the burden of defending freedom around the world."

This remark is what the Americans call a "sleeper" — a sleeping dog that might well come to life and start barking loudly if there is a fresh revival of the Mansfield idea of cutting troops in Europe.

To have spelled out this hint more bluntly in public would have been clumsy. But it seems likely that the resources of the American diplomatic arsenal are going to be put to work to underline this message and carry it to the desks of Foreign and Defence Ministers in all the NATO capitals.

JOHANNESBURG: Gold share prices on the stock exchange showed across-the-board increases of up to 25 cents. A financial columnist wrote in the "Johannesburg Star" that the American dollar was now the key to the dollar as the keystone of the international monetary system. — Reuter and UPL

ROME: Italy temporarily set the price of the dollar at 617.50 lira but limited its exchange to non-resident tourists to \$50 each day. The Prime Minister Signor Colombo, flew back from holiday to hold talks with Cabinet Ministers.

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'Sleeper' for NATO

By PATRICK KEATLEY, Diplomatic Correspondent

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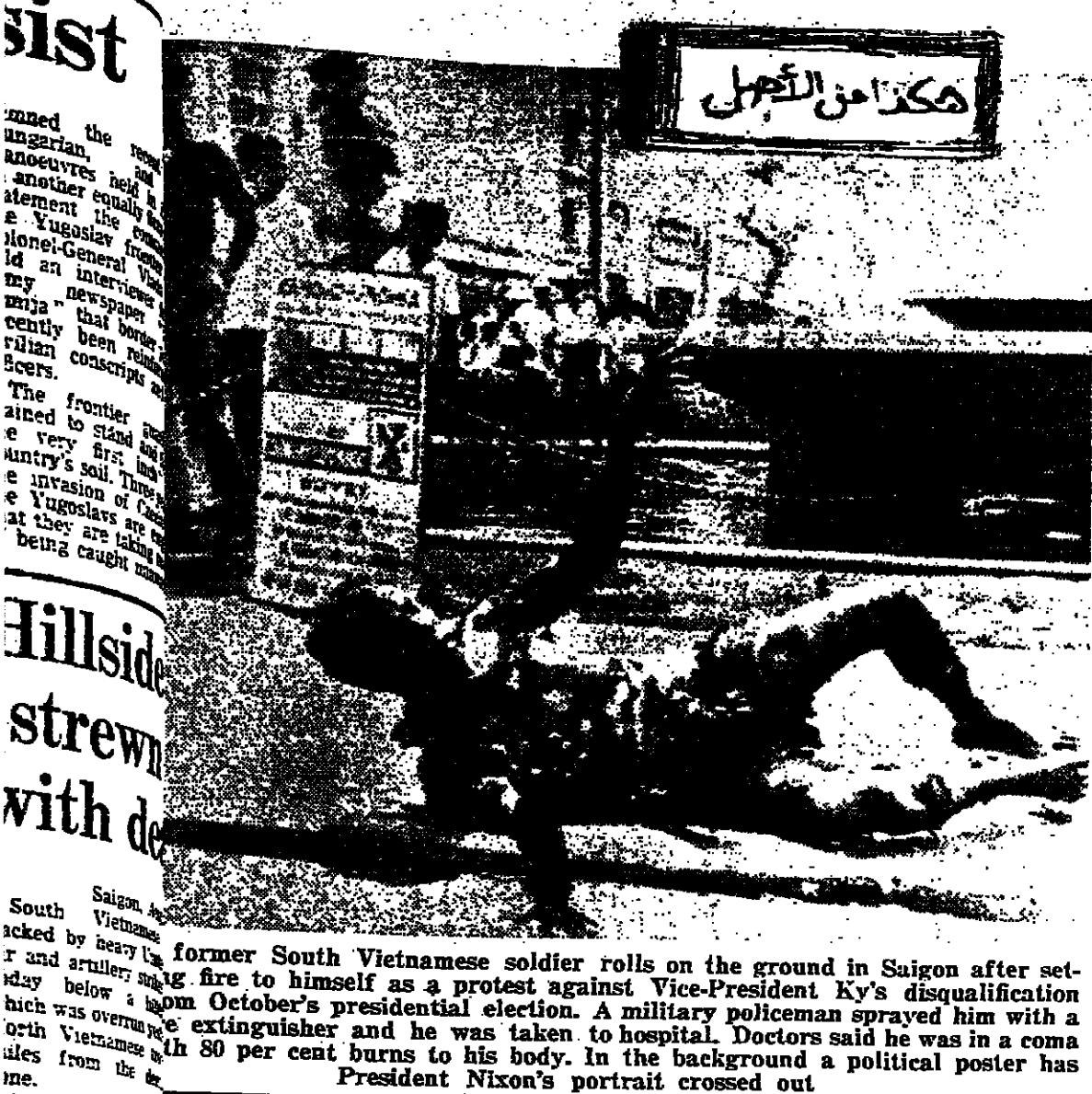
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former South Vietnamese soldier rolls on the ground in Saigon after setting fire to himself as a protest against Vice-President Ky's disqualification from October's presidential election. A military policeman sprayed him with a high-pressure water hose and he was taken to hospital. Doctors said he was in a coma and 80 per cent burns to his body. In the background a political poster has President Nixon's portrait crossed out.

King Faisal holds whip hand on Jordan

From DAVID HIRST: Beirut, August 16

TH large concentrations of Syrian troops reportedly massed on both sides of the Syrian-Jordanian frontier, the Arab world is watching anxiously for signs of a breakthrough towards a settlement between King Faisal, the guerrillas, and the Arab backers.

In spite of the clashes of the past few days it is highly probable that either side is planning a serious fight with an aim to bring about a settlement. Syria does not want a serious fight with an aim to bring about a settlement. Syria does not want a serious fight with an aim to bring about a settlement.

The North Vietnamese soldier rolls on the ground in Saigon after setting fire to himself as a protest against Vice-President Ky's disqualification from October's presidential election.

ENTERTAINMENTS GUIDE

SHOW BOAT
With the musical of the
LIFE OF THE MUSICAL OF
KERN & HANNESTON

ALDOREY (856 7611). Evr. 7.30
Sats. 7.30. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

THE MOUSETRAP
NINETEENTH BREATHING YEAR
APOLLO (437 2643). Evr. 8.0.
Sats. 8.0. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

FORGET-ME-NOT
by PETER NICHOLS
CAMBRIDGE THEATRE (856 0090).
Evr. 7.30. Sats. 7.30. Sun. 2.30.
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

IAN MCKELLEN as HAMLET
The Hamlet I've been waiting
to see. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

COMEDY (930 2578). Evr. 8.15. Sat.
8.15. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

There's a Girl in My Soup
LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY
CRITERION (930 3216). Air con-
ditioned. Evr. 8.15. Sat. 8.15.
Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

ALAN BATES in BUTLEY
by Simon Gray. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

BRUNO LAZZARI (856 8100). Evr.
8.15. Sat. 8.15. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

THE GREAT WALTZ
A MUSICAL ROMANCE
on the life of JOHANN STRAUSS.
"RUCELY ENJOYABLE."—S. Tins.
DUCHES (856 8243). Evr. 8.30.
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Sats. 8.30. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

LOOK NO HANDS
GARRICK (856 4601). Mon. to Th. 8.0.
Fri. & Sat. 8.0. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

ALAN BATES as KEAN
A Comedy by Jean-Paul Sartre.
Haymarket (930 9821). Evr. 8.0.
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Haymarket (930 9821). Evr. 8.0.
Sats. 8.0. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
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The musical of the life of
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THEATRES

HER MAJESTY'S (930 6606). 7.30.
Sats. 7.30. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
Also starring Stella Morris. 5th year.
KING'S HEAD, Hammersmith. (01-222 1919).
Evr. 7.30. Sats. 7.30. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES
New Comedy by Alan Ayckbourn.
Jubilee Theatre. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

THE PHILANTHROPIST
by Caryl Churchill. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

THE SECRETARY BIRD
SHAFTESBURY THEATRE (856 6596).
Evr. 8.0. Sat. 8.0. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

THE NATIONAL THEATRE
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Evr. 8.0. Sat. 8.0. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

ROUND HOUSE 267 2564. 8 p.m. Fri.
Sats. 8.0. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

ANDY WARHOL'S PORK
"Highly comic."—E. S. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

ROYAL COURT 730 1743. 7.30. 8.0.
Sats. 8.0. Sun. 2.30. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

OH! CALIFORNIA!
"AMAZING & AMUSING."—D. (See p. 10)
The musical of the life of
KERN & HANNESTON

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Here is the text of Mr Nixon's speech:
I have addressed the
nation a number of times
over the past two years on
the problems of ending a war.
Because of the progress we
have made towards achieving
that goal, this Sunday evening
is an appropriate time for us
to turn our attention to the
challenges of peace.

America today has the best
opportunity in this century to
attain two of its greatest ideals:
to bring about a just generation
of the time to create a new
prosperity without war.

This not only requires bold
leadership, it calls forth for the
greatness in a great people.

Prosperity without war requires
action on three fronts: we must
create more and better jobs; we
must stop the rise in the cost of
living; we must protect the
dollar from the attacks of inter-
national money speculators.

We are going to take that
action. Not timidly, not half-
heartedly, but with the courage
and determination of a great
people—all together, and along
a broad front.

The time has come for a new
economic policy for the United
States; its targets are unemploy-
ment, inflation, and international
speculation. Here is how we are
going to attack them.

First, on the subject of jobs.
We all know what we have an
unemployment problem: two
million workers have been
released from the economy be-
cause of the progress we have
made in winning down the war
in Vietnam.

For those people back to
work is one of the challenges of
peace, and we have begun to
make progress. Our unemploy-
ment rate today is below the
average of the four peacetime
years of the 60s. But we can and
must do better.

What has come for Ameri-
can industry, which has produced
more jobs at higher real wages
than any other country in the
world, is a new challenge. The
history to embark on a bold
programme of new investment in
production for peace.

Second, on the subject of a powerful
new stimulus. I shall ask the
Congress when it reconvenes after its
summer recess to consider as its
first priority the passage of the
Job Development Act of 1971.

I propose to provide the
strongest short-term incentive in
our history to invest in new
factories and equipment. That
will create new jobs for Ameri-
cans: a 10 per cent job develop-
ment credit for one year, effective
as of January 1, 1972. This tax
credit for investment in new
equipment will not only generate
new jobs but will also produce
activity and make our goods more
competitive in the years ahead.

Homemakers find it harder
than ever to balance their family
budget. And 80 million
earnings have been on a tread-
mill: in the four years since
1968 and 1969, their wage
increases were completely eaten
up by price increases. Their pay
was no better off.

We have made progress against
the rise in the cost of living:
from the high point of 6 per cent
in 1969, the rise in consumer
prices has been cut to 4.7
per cent. In addition, I call upon
the Congress to take the
action necessary to defend the
dollar against the speculators.

I have directed Secretary
Connally to suspend temporarily
the convertibility of dollars into
gold or other reserve assets,
except in amounts and conditions
determined to be in the interest
of monetary stability and in the
best interests of the United
States.

The range of actions I have
taken and proposed tonight—on
the job front, on the inflation
front, on the monetary front—is
the most comprehensive new
economic policy to be under-
taken by this nation in four
decades.

We are fortunate to live in a
nation with an economic system
capable of producing for its
people the highest standard of
living. But we must be able to
change its ways dramatically
when circumstances call for
change; and most important, we
must be able to produce prosperity
and opportunity for all.

The purposes of the Govern-
ment actions I have announced
tonight are to lay the basis for
renewed confidence, to make it

possible for us to compete
with the rest of the world, to
open the door to a new prosperity.
But government, with all
powers, does not hold the key
to the success of a people. That is a
task for all of us.

A nation, like a person, has
to have certain inner disciplines
in order to succeed. In economic
affairs, that inner discipline is
the competitive spirit. It is the
spirit that says: "I will not
be beaten."

I am taking one further step
to protect the dollar, to improve our
balance of payments, and to
increase US jobs. As a temporary
measure, I am imposing an
additional tax of 10 per cent on
goods imported into the United
States. This is a better solution
than direct controls on the amount
of imports.

This import tax is a temporary
action, not directed against
any other country, but an action
to make certain that American
products will not be at the
disadvantage because of unfair
exchange rates. When the unfair
treatment is ended, the import
tax will end as well.

As a result of these actions, the
product of American labour will
be more competitive, and the
unfair edge that some of our
foreign competitors have had
will be removed. This is a major
reason why our trade balance has
eroded over the past 15 years.

At the end of World War Two
the economies of the major indus-
trial nations of Europe and Asia
were shattered. To help them get
on their feet and to protect their
freedom, the United States has
provided \$148,000 million in
foreign aid. That was the right
thing for us to do.

Today, largely with our help,
they have regained their vitality
and have become strong competi-
tors. Now that other nations are
economically strong the time has
come for the United States to
take the burden of defending
freedom around the world. The
time has come for exchange rates
to be fair and for each of the
major nations to compete as
equals. There is no longer any
need for the US to compete with
nations that are not competitive.

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be beaten."

New economic policy for the United States



Tourists at the office of American Express in the Haymarket London, yesterday. An official said: "The average American seems to be more intent on his holiday at the moment."

have ordered a \$4,700 millions cut
in Federal spending. We must
Tax cuts to stimulate employ-
ment must be matched by spend-
ing cuts to restrain inflation. To

GLC plan for development to be changed

By JUDY HILLMAN, Planning Correspondent

Parts of the Greater London Council's development plan—now the subject of a special inquiry—are to be rewritten in an attempt to clarify the capital's problems, the council's objections, and its courses of possible action.

A panel of outside specialists, whose chairman is Mr Frank Layfield, has decided that certain sections of the plan are too vague and ought to be made more intelligible to the Londoner who wishes to know what the GLC is trying to do.

This does not mean that there is to be a new plan. However, changes and additions which are suggested will require political approval. There will also be some sort of formula about council willingness to submit such amendments should a panel so wish, which it obviously does.

The latest move helps demonstrate the importance of such expert commissions of inquiry in elucidating key issues. The suggested areas of change and amendment include transport, employment, and housing. Mr Layfield himself mentions seven areas where serious reconsideration was needed in the transport section of the written statement—the legal document before the inquiry.

These included the aims of the transport strategy, the importance of the relationship between public and private transport, and the possibility of curbing the use of private cars.

Mr Layfield said the written statement is "even with a much higher expenditure on roads than the plan can contemplate it would not be possible to meet future traffic demands in full. Some restraint in the use of private cars is therefore needed, particularly here where there is serious congestion as in central London and her centres of concentrated activity."

The panel particularly emphasises the need to help the Secretary for the Environment who will give the verdict on the plan—realise that the con-

roversial roads, for all their cost and disturbance, will not solve London's traffic problems without restraint.

The plan now gives the impression that the proposed roads have been planned without much thought about their impact on the future of London but merely to meet historic traffic demand.

Employment is another section of which the panel has suggested a possible new shape to make plain the problems, opportunities, objectives and location policies in relation to transport, the major strategic centres, and timing of urban renewal.

Dr David Eversley, the GLC's chief strategic planner, agreed at a recent session of the inquiry that the written statement should discuss the sort of conditions areas should have to reach before the council plumped for the creation of new jobs.

"I would like to lay down canons of good development, canons of the kind we already have about height of buildings, about conservation areas and landscaping, canons relating to labour supply and its access to employment, canons relating to public transport for access to employment, and in the case of industry road transport as well," he said.

Other points that may be clarified include the socio-economic aspects as well as physical aspects of the housing problem and the importance of Government backing.

The inquiry has spent 144 days in public hearings and will now round out London to listen to local transport objections in September.

Appearance at the final stage, which follows, will be by invitation only. And then, of course, there will have to be a report.

Nuisances that hide their light

By our Planning Correspondent

The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Peter Walker, is considering the need for local councils to give greater publicity for certain types of planning applications. There is also a possibility in due course of stalled changes in the law, which would give councils discretionary power to make applications on the site out what they intend to do.

This step in government thinking about the need to ensure that people know more about development proposals which could affect their neighbourhood has emerged in correspondence between Mr Graham Page, Minister for Local Government and Development, and Mr Philip Goodhart, MP for Croydon. Mr Goodhart had been particularly concerned about the building of a petrol station next to the home of a resident.

At the moment, applicants planning permission for certain forms of development, which might cause a nuisance, including Turkish baths, cinemas, fish and chip shops, and buildings of a certain height do have to see that local people are informed.

Mr Page says that he will seek to simplify and extend existing arrangements when a suitable opportunity for legislation arises. In the meantime, there is the possibility of a general circular to councils stressing the need for publicity for planning applications where development would have wide effects. This would presumably cover cases such as the petrol station.

Planning registers are available for public inspection, but most individuals do not have the time or inclination to keep constant watch. Local amenity societies often do just this but they may not object to certain plans and there are still places where this form of active public watchdog.

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A teacher introduces a Peckham girl to school life

2,000 seals to die

By ROSALIND MORRIS

THE National Trust is to kill more than 2,000 of the 7,000 grey seals which breed on the Farne Islands, a nature reserve off the coast of Northumberland. It will be the biggest cull carried out by the trust. In 1965, because of the outcry among its members, the trust had to abandon a series of five culls of Farne Island seals after making only three, killing 1,000 seals.

A report prepared for the trust earlier this year, which recommends the killing of half of the 2,000 female seals together with their pups, is published today. It has been accepted in full by the trust.

The authors, Mrs Grace Hickling, an honorary secretary of the National History Society, and Mr Nigel Somers, head of the Natural Environment Research Council's seals research unit, argue that there is serious overcrowding on the Farnes because the seal population has doubled since 1960.

They say this is part of the cause of a high mortality rate of 21 per cent among young seals, and also leads to aggressive behaviour among adults. The report shows that this especially affects the females, who sometimes savage their young or abandon them. It also shows that the annual increase of about 10 per cent in the seal population is having serious effects on the ecology of the Farnes. Soil erosion caused by the seals is harming the breeding habits of rare seabirds.

The Farne Islands were bought for the National Trust by public subscription in 1925 as a bird sanctuary.

The National Trust will apply to the Home Office for a licence to kill the seals and the Natural Environment Research Council, the Council for Nature, the RSPCA, and the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare will be consulted on the best way to carry out the culls.

Four-year-olds get a flying start at school

By RICHARD BOURNE, Education Correspondent

Three-quarters of the September beginners at an infants' school in Peckham, South London are attending a one-month introductory course in school life sponsored by the Home Office urban aid programme.

Some 80 per cent of the children at the Bellenden Road Infants' School are immigrants, mostly of West Indian and Turkish-Cypriot origin, and less than 20 per cent of the September intake have had any nursery school, day nursery, or play group experience. Although the £1,000 grant runs out this Christmas—there was a fortnight course for Bellenden's summer intake during the Easter holiday and two other centres are now operating in Southwark—it is hoped that the Home Office will sanction a four-year extension covering several more Southwark primary schools.

Mr David Asvat, Southwark's community relations officer, said that the venture was a cooperative effort involving the inner London Education Authority, the borough of Southwark, teachers at the school, and volunteers from colleges of education nearby.

Roughly half the regular staff at the school will have helped in this experimental introduction to school life. It includes the acquisition of basic social skills such as tying shoelaces as well as linguistic help for children whose first language is not English.

Parents have supported the project strongly, and none appear to have dropped out. A teacher claimed that even with only a fortnight at Easter the summer intake had been more confident and settled than usual among five-year-old arrivals, and that this time there had been good language progress among the non-English speakers, and certain problem children had been helped.

"There has been an enormous change in one small boy. When he came we wondered whether he was deaf or only partially sighted. He just lay on the floor and kicked, or sat rocking and sucking his thumb, a four-year-old showing the signs of an emotional age of two," the teacher added. Although he would probably still need to see an educational psychologist and have

his sight and hearing tested, he had effectively doubled his limited vocabulary, and built a strong relationship with one teacher, was using the agility apparatus like any child, and had generally settled down.

In another case, the preschool experiment had located an adverse family situation which community relations and social workers were now trying to assist. A deserted mother with four children had refused supplementary benefit, and had taken a night job in order to support her family. She was frequently tired and depended on the support of the little girl who had now come to the "head-start" school.

Like other summer school projects, the Bellenden one relies heavily on a generous ratio of adults to children—one to four, working in groups—but its significance lies in the close relationship with schools to which children are about to go. Mr Asvat, whose community relations council is taking a year of interest in education with pilot introductory projects, believes that the scheme should be extended to all infants' schools which have no nursery classes.

Ford plans 1,000 Cortinas a day

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

Ford hopes to increase production of the Cortina from 900 a day to more than 1,000, and to increase the labour force at Dagenham by 600 men, most of them on assembly lines.

Orders have been good since the July mini-budget, but the need to make more cars is only an indication that Ford is creeping back to the dominant market position lost during the 10-week strike earlier in the year.

The demand seems to be limited to the Cortina, which is the main car produced at Dagenham. The Morris-Marina is aiming at the same market, and Ford feels it was correct

to endure the teething troubles of the redesigned Cortina.

The Escort, made at Halewood, Lancashire, faces more intense competition from the Vauxhall and the 1.3 litre range of Marinas. Ford does not need to increase production at Halewood but apparently is happy with the car's steady sales.

Production of the Cortina is likely to be increased by breaking down tasks on the assembly lines allotting more men to carry them out, and speeding up the run.

Ford will have 1,000 new jobs available, but about 400 are replacements for men who have left. Numbers at Dagenham will be raised to just over 24,000.

Hippies take over old dwellings for park people

by Malcolm Stuart

A CONDEMNED tenement block in Clerkenwell Road, London, has been taken over by about 35 hippies. They claim that they can offer a home to most of the capital's "park people" and after one attempt by the police to clear them out they have barricaded the six-storey Victoria Buildings.

The building belongs to a property company called 17 Investments Ltd., and has been empty since the Greater London Council served clearance orders on the owners in March, 1968. The tenants, who shared two lavatories to every floor, were rehoused by the GLC.

Hippies moved in at the weekend. They yesterday suspended a bag from a second-floor window and asked passers-by to give them money or cigarettes. The front of the building has been daubed with the words "London Street Commune"—the name adopted for 144 Piccadilly when that building was occupied two years ago. Other slogans say "No Fuzz," "Free Pot," "Defend Us," "People before profit," "Figs Out," and "Love your fellow man, give him a home."

One of the occupants, Susan Coleman, aged 18, left her parents' home in London last March and since then has mainly lived in parks. "This is a place where we can all live together," she said, in one of the rooms used by the

hippie. "We'll clean this place out and even pay rent. Not much rent, it's not worth it, but something. To close this place down and leave it empty for years is a scandal."

Bob Westlake, aged 19, who left home in Swindon two-and-a-half years ago, said: "We have searched for weeks for a building to take over. There is masses of room here to start a proper commune. At least 1,000 people live in the parks. There is so much room in this place that we could get most of them in here."

Sonny Stevenson, aged 20, from Glasgow, said: "This is a peaceful protest, but now we are here we are going to stay. The fuzz busted us yesterday, but now we have got the barricades on the stairs. We are not doing any harm here. We have found a few mattresses and most of the glass is in the windows. It's better than the parks."

Scotland Yard said that the police went to the dwellings on Sunday because someone called to say that "hippie-type people were causing wilful damage." "There is a fire hazard in the building and after we informed the occupants of this they left of their own accord," he said. "We now understand the owners are taking steps to board the place up."

The building, which has no electricity or water, is scheduled for redevelopment as an industrial site.

OBITUARY

Former editor killed

Mr Victor Zorian, former editor of "Lancashire Life," died on Sunday night when his car was involved in an accident in Bolton. He was 61.

Mr Zorian, a bachelor, was of Armenian descent. He lived at Links Road, Harwood, near Bolton. He became editor of "Lancashire Life" in 1956 and retired last year. Since then he had worked for the "Sunday Mirror" as a freelance.

Most of Mr Zorian's 30 years in journalism were spent in the North-west. He began on a local newspaper in his home town, Lytham St Anne, then moved to Ashton-under-Lyne. Later he worked for the "Daily Graphic" and worked for several years with Kemsley Newspapers. He also edited newspapers in County Down, Northern Ireland, and in Crawley, New South Wales.

His sister, the late Olive Zorian, was a noted violinist who founded the Zorian Quartet.

Dorothy L. Pilkington

Miss Dorothy L. Pilkington, a former director of Pilkington's Tiles Ltd, Clifton, near Manchester, has died in hospital at the age of 77. Miss Pilkington had lived for several years with her sister, Miss Margaret Pilkington, at Firwood, Alderley Edge.

She was the youngest daughter of Mr Lawrence Pilkington, who founded the family firm with his two brothers. Three years ago Miss Pilkington resigned from the board of the company after serving for 39 years. During that time she became the first woman in the country to hold a certificate for colliery management.

Miss Pilkington was for many years chairman of the governors of her old school, Manchester High School for Girls. For her services to education she was awarded an honorary MA degree by Manchester University.

VC dies

Sir Brett Cloutman, QC, who won the last VC of the First World War has died at his home at Highgate, London, aged 79. He won the VC in November 1918. He swam a river and cut wire with which the enemy were to set off the blasting of a bridge. In the Second World War he won the MC.

Duke claims Covent plan was 'lifted'

By JOHN WINDSOR

The Duke of Bedford yesterday accused the GLC of "lifting" a privately-produced plan for Covent Garden and using it as the basis for its own Covent Garden Development Plan.

He is president of Covent Garden Centre Ltd. Mr George Martin, founder of the organisation, claims to have invested ten years of work worth £350,000 in his own scheme, only to have his ideas copied and be given a "brush-off" by the GLC. Mr Martin has announced that he will sue the council to recover the money.

The Duke was appearing at a public inquiry into the plan. "I have no doubt whatsoever that the proposed GLC scheme is that conceived and developed by Covent Garden Centre Ltd entirely at the expense of that non-profit making company—watered down to suit the GLC," he said.

It would seem odd if developers were allowed to make a substantial profit while the company was left to pick up a very considerable bill for 10 years of selfless work and dedication to the scheme.

Neither the Duke nor Mr Martin, who describes himself as a successful property developer, economist, management training consultant, conference organiser, and fluent speaker of six languages, drew much change from Mr Charles Hilton, the Department of the Environment's inspector at the inquiry.

Mr Hilton told Mr Martin, who became agitated when repeatedly told that his evidence was outside the scope of the inquiry: "Keep your cool. I'm not accustomed to being shouted at." "I'm not shouting," Mr Martin replied. "I'm just accustomed to speaking loudly."

Mr Hilton had accused him of being grossly impertinent and threatened to ask the GLC to stop the recorder. "I'm not going to allow the inquiry to be a platform for your views on local government throughout the country," he said. He was prepared to hear only objections to the plan, not the history of the Centre.

The Duke was "a private quarrel between you and the GLC," Mr Hilton interrupted the Duke as he was reading his statement and said: "I regard much of what the Duke is saying as immaterial."

Mr Martin produced his plan—more than an inch thick with no page numbers. He said that its importance had not been fully appreciated by the GLC's planners, and proceeded to plough through it. Dozens of names of famous and aristocratic writers, he said, had pledged support for it were read out. Lord Salisbury, Mr Robert Maxwell, Sir Charles Clore, Mr Henry Moore, Lord Robens, Sir Isaac Wilson.

The Duke of Bedford added in his statement: "I am certain that had George Martin not conceived this great plan for London and, for the past 10 years, pushed it before people, press, and authority, nobody would have dared to put forward a plan of such magnitude. The fact that it is now being diminished by the GLC planners is surely an indication of their smaller thinking."

"It is, of course, possible that the GLC planners could have reached the same vision and proceeded in the same manner. It is possible. But in this case it is without reasonable doubt, not so. My family has been connected with Covent Garden for 400 years. If we still owned it, I would not hesitate to let Mr Martin develop it on the lines he has planned, namely an economic project in the public interest."

The Duchess of Bedford, who also appeared, said: "If the GLC is allowed to diminish the scheme that Covent Garden Centre has developed, nurtured, and sensibly cherished over the past 10 years, a great disservice will be done to this nation and to the people of this country. And, for that matter, the people of the world."

Mr Martin alleged that the main similarities between the Centre's plan, published in 1964, and the GLC's plan, published in 1968, was their emphasis on an international conference centre. Both plans used the same three words. His plan had three hotels; the GLC had three or four hotels. Both had sports centres, offices, and shops. He conceded that the GLC plan did not provide for a "cultural revolution," an idea which, he made plain, he had coined before Chairman Mao.

Gaoled director who was cleared to sue

Mr Lionel Barrie Shepherd, aged 45, a company director, who spent eight months in prison on charges of fraud but who was cleared, has started an action in the High Court for damages against the Director of Public Prosecutions.

He alleges the prosecution suppressed or failed to disclose vital evidence. Mr Shepherd, of Church Street, Eye, Suffolk, was convicted at Suffolk Assizes in 1968. Eight months later the Appeal Court quashed his convictions. He says that in addition to prison he has suffered loss of employment and deterioration in health.

At the Appeal Court hearing, Lord Parker, then Lord Chief Justice, said Mr Shepherd had been managing director of an engineering company which agreed to sell its book debts to

Island's plea to Queen

THE QUEEN is to be asked to exercise her power as Duchess of Normandy to stop the Government enacting Common Market legislation which would affect Guernsey's rights and privileges.

A committee, chaired by Mr Vincent Carey, has been set up to prepare a petition. The islanders feel that their local Parliament (the States of Guernsey) has lost control now that the States have refused associate membership to the Channel Islands.

The question of special consideration for the islands in the Common Market has been deferred and it is likely that they will be committed to membership before negotiations on their behalf are started.

The islands, who have had independence for more than a 1,000 years, have the right to plead a case before the Throne. Parliament cannot interfere with internal legislation, although it does act on the island's behalf in foreign affairs.

Membership of the Common Market, except on very special terms, would make a mockery of this independence. The islands decide what taxes, if any, they levy; make their own laws; and control immigration. Exports to Britain of horticultural produce are free of import duty.

No cut in dismissal payments

The Government was not planning to cut redundancy payments in spite of the deficit in the Redundancy Fund, the Department of Employment said yesterday. About £45 millions was paid in the first six months of the year, £15 millions more than in the same period last year.

The fund has powers to borrow up to £20 millions from the National Loans Fund and this limit has not been approached.

The Government has two ways of putting the fund in balance again. It can increase the employers' contribution, or it can reduce the rate of rebate paid to employers. At present the employer pays the whole of the redundancy money, and gets a 50 per cent rebate from the Government.

Payments from the fund in the second quarter of this year—nearly £28 millions—were a record for any quarter since the scheme was started. But the average amount paid to each worker has decreased. In the first quarter this year it was £289, but in the second quarter it was £274. This indicates either that more short service workers were made redundant or that those affected were lower paid.

Burton's role

Richard Burton is to play the title part in Josef Shafte's production of "The Assassination of Trotsky" directed by Joseph Losey.

Woman caught in flash

An Austrian woman teacher took a flashlight photograph at a Law Courts yesterday as three judges heard a criminal appeal case. Photography is strictly forbidden in the building. The film was confiscated and destroyed.

The teacher, Dr Elfrida Jussver, aged 59, of Vienna, was followed out of court by her, a police sergeant, and a court tipstaff.

She was escorted back and lodged to the three judges Lord Justice Karminski, Mr Justice Milmo, and Mr Justice Byrne.

Lord Justice Karminski said that the court appreciated that a might not have seen notices the entrances to the Law Courts forbidding photography, but we are very strict about it, you know."

Film workers accept 15 pc

The National Association of Cinematic, Television, and Kine employees has accepted a wage increase of 15 per cent the first of 1969.

Although the members were expected to reject it, they accepted the increase by a large majority. Some thought the small increase to keep pay in line with the cost of living, but employers said they could afford more.



Victoria Buildings under occupation yesterday

THOMAS WISEMAN

'It is his own personal cosmology, biology and psychology that Lawrence sets out in these two essays, and it seems to me nearly all nonsense, brilliant nonsense, full of sudden crazy and paradoxical insights, but nonsense'

NOT SURPRISING that the feminists should take such exception to D. H. Lawrence—those phallic darkens to which he consigned his female characters were hardly conducive to egalitarianism. It is no wonder really that when his name is mentioned liberated women lose their cool. There is a lot in Lawrence's writings to antagonise them, and yet I think they are wrong to take him at his word, as Kate Millett does for example in her academic critique of his male supremacist's ethos.

Lawrence said: "Never trust the artist. Trust the tale. The proper function of a critic is to save the tale from the artist who created it."

I think that Lawrence has become the *hôte nuire* of the feminists precisely because they have not trusted the tale, but have listened instead to Lawrence the theoretician. How wrong-headed he could be in his ideas on leadership and power is well-known.

He could write: "For power is the first and greatest of all mysteries. It is the mystery that is behind all our

being, even behind all our existence. Even the phallic erection is the first blind movement of power. . . . On other matters, too, he could propound ideas which taken literally sound fairly crazy. Penguins have just published his little-known essay "Fantasia of the Unconscious" and "Psychoanalysis and the Unconscious" and in these the Lawrentian system with all its bizarre notions is set out—perfect ammunition for any feminist, or rationalist for that matter.

Rejecting Freud's version of the unconscious as an "unpleasant menagerie" and professing horror at the Freudian notion that sex is behind everything, he goes on to offer his own alternative theory of the unconscious. And here we find ourselves in the world of the seer and the crystal gazer, as Lawrence, invoking poetic omniscience, tells us the way that it all is.

"The moon," for instance, "is composed of some very intense element, like phosphorus or radium, some element or elements which have very

powerful chemical and kinetic activity . . . affecting us through space." The moon which has its back to us (it is the back of the moon that we see, he asserts) is identified with the feminine principle, the sun with the masculine, and so on. Furthermore, our bodies are divided up into different seats of emotion: some feelings belong to the solar plexus and some to the cardiac plexus and some to the knees (those that make you go weak there); in this way he sets out to refute that upstart usurper of the unconscious, Freud.

These psychoanalysts with their laborious theories! The true explanation is to be found in that, "a man finds it impossible to realise himself in marriage. He recognises that his emotional, passionate regard for his mother is deeper than it ever could be for a wife. This makes him unhappy, for he knows that passionate communion is not complete unless it is also sexual. . . . And so the incest-motive is born."

Keep your Oedipus complex, Herr Doktor Freud!

It is his own personal cosmology,

biology and psychology (no less) that Lawrence sets out in these two essays, and it seems to me nearly all nonsense, brilliant nonsense, full of sudden crazy and paradoxical insights, but nonsense.

The essays were originally published in 1923, that is after "The Rainbow," after "Women in Love," after "Aaron's Rod," and so must be taken to represent what he conceived to be the ideas of those novels. And it seems to me he could not have been more wrong, of which he probably had some inkling in issuing the warning not to trust the artist, but to trust the tale. What can be observed in the essays is his attempt to refute the deeply disturbing interpretation of his own make-up that Freud's general theories suddenly made possible. It is as if the discovery of the meaning of what he had been saying in his novels terrified him; and therefore he had to devise his elaborate counter-cosmology.

I think what really upset him about Freud was the down-to-earth causation of things, when Lawrence clearly preferred the heavenly. Thus one can see

how he would have reacted against Freud's ideas of anal eroticism, preferring to characterise the matter in more elevated terms: " . . . storm the angel-guarded/Gates of the long-discarded/Garden. . . ."

I believe it was as a form of justifying and romanticising his own nature that Lawrence came out with the ideas and the concepts that the feminists find so offensive. For example, it must have been in panicky apprehension of the homosexuality (actual or imagined) within himself that he devised those phallic philosophies, those self-aggrandising theories of the conquering penis. The grandiosity of the language is the give away: the closer he came to the hard truths of his nature the more his mind spun whole cathedrals of words to cover up.

None of this actually detracts from his achievements, for, as he partly realised, his theories were irrelevant. He believed that what he called "the blood"—which was really the same thing as Freud's unconscious—was

"wiser than the intellect." And so it was.

When the feminists say of Lawrence that he got women all wrong they are in a way right, but they miss the point that he got them wrong in exactly the way that men do get women wrong (and vice versa); that therefore he depicted what really went on between men and women by describing what went on in his own mind. Nobody had really written in the way about sexual relationships and feelings: that is, described the complex unconscious world beneath the conscious.

Lawrence did this, and it is a formidable achievement. It is nagging to complain of the discoverers of new worlds that they have charted them inaccurately, that they have got their geography wrong. It would be a pity therefore to read a book like "Fantasia of the Unconscious" on the level of its declared pretensions: what is needed is a reducing lens so that every time the dark cosmos is invoked it is understood that Lawrence is talking about his own hot little ego.

Restoration in the sinking city

Caroline Tisdall reports on the artistic and urban plight of Venice

VENICE, AS EVERYONE knows, is crumbling into its lagoon. Its buildings are disintegrating and its art is threatened by damp and decay. It has reached the point where all the money pouring in from international funds, tourism, and visitors to the art biennale and film festivals can do little to stop the rot hastened on not only by the elements, but also by the unchecked industrial boom of Porta Marghera, the fatal greed to which Venice awoke too late.

Meanwhile, attractions are laid on indefinitely. This year, bridging the gap between two biennales is a mammoth exhibition of Venetian art at the Museo Correr. Entitled "Arte a Venezia" it has a triple objective: to represent the scope of Venetian art, to gather together pieces from the less well-known museums and churches and, above all, to emphasise the need for continual restoration.

The problem of restoration was accentuated by the floods of 1966 which affected Venice as much as Florence. Encouraged by considerable financial aid and the sustained advice and help of experts from abroad, particularly New York and London, the Italian authorities and the Venetian Soprintendenza at last tackled an urgent problem on a large scale. The greatest problems are frescoes, notoriously difficult to maintain and costly to detach, and outdoor sculpture, threatened by neglect and a heavily polluted atmosphere. The exhibition presents evidence of progress made and a plea for more help.

Painting, sculpture, tapestries, gold-work, and manuscripts provide a panorama of Venetian art from the ninth to the eighteenth century, from the Byzantine-influenced mosaics of Torcello to full-blown rococo. Included are some of the victories of restoration: the last traces of Giorgione's amazing female nude saved from the walls of the Fondaco del Tedesco in 1937, and Titian's "Justice" from the same building, painted when Titian was Giorgione's assistant. Tintoretto's "Flight into Egypt" emerges in its full splendour of chiaroscuro and colour after the Venice Committee-International Fund's intervention on the entire Scuola di San Rocco series. Juxtaposed with these is the sad state of Giovanni Bellini's "Madonna Enthroned" from San Zaccaria. This is due for restoration when the exhibition closes and preliminary patches of cleaning emphasise a gloom of dirt and overpainting.

The same applies to sculpture: Nino Pisano's "Madonna" crumbling away, Donatello's "St John the Baptist" obscured by extravagant nineteenth century chromatics.

But the state of art is only one of Venice's problems. There is mounting concern for the future of the city itself, not only because it continues to sink, speeded along by mindless exploitation, but for the preservation of the Venice that Le Corbusier once called the "city of the future." By this Corbusier meant the situation achieved by a balance of nature and history, a city in which pedestrians and transport function on different levels, in which the inhabitants can enjoy the advantages of city life without its din and danger. But that was written before the wholesale incursion of the motorboat and the incipient conversion of the centre into luxury hotels and high-class desirable residences.

In the past 20 years the centre of Venice has lost a third of its inhabitants. In 1951 there were 174,000, now the number has dropped to 115,000 and continues to diminish. It is the young and the lower paid who are leaving, driven out not by lack of work, but by the impossibility of finding a place to live. Hence Venice is dying and fast becoming a city museum.

The State provides 50 per cent grants for urbanistic and domestic rehabilitation, and one would think that this would save the 16,000 abandoned ground floors threatened periodically by the "acqua alta," and traditionally the home of the humbler Venetian. But only large financial enterprises can afford the capital outlay necessary to claim such a grant, which leads, inevitably, to speculation. After 50 per cent State aid, the restored buildings are sold off as desirable luxury residences. Thus the economic and social structure of Venice is irreparably damaged and it's the ordinary citizen who loses out.

"Arte a Venezia" at the Museo Correr until October 31.



Palazzo Camerlengo cornice



Giorgione: nude fresco

Man of war and words

Raymond Gardner on Jonathan Griffin, wartime intelligence director, poet, and translator



picture by Peter Johns

JONATHAN GRIFFIN likes strong fags and weak tea. The fags are Sweet Afton, the tea China, and the incongruity total. Mr Griffin is an unpredictable man. He was born in 1906, read Greats at Oxford, and went on to study music under Dolmetsch and Schnabel. He intended to be a pianist but suffered from stagefright and turned—he explains it as the most natural thing in the world—to politics. In the pre-war years he wrote a series of books on "military matters" and became South-east Europe correspondent for "The Nation." He says: "I thought that disarmament was the most important question of all. Of course it would have to be international disarmament. I thought that the prevention of war was a military matter and that therefore one had better get to know about armaments and battles and sea power and all the rest of it. . . ."

The rest of it was that the Liberal Party adopted his ideas on defence as official policy which Churchill debated in Parliament but did not adopt. Then came the phoney war and a BBC appointment as a Balkans watcher. The phoney war became the real war and Jonathan Griffin became—naturally—the BBC's European Intelligence Director, a job which he vaguely describes as knowing which wavelenghts were audible at what times and when they were able to listen. Who "they" were is never fully explained. As the war ended, Mr Griffin arrived at the British Embassy in Paris where he remained until 1951. Which brings us to Mr Griffin's latest pursuit, that of poet and translator.

His first major work appeared in 1955, at the age of 49, when Secker and Warburg published "The Hidden King," a "poem for the stage in the form of a trilogy" which was per-

formed at the 1957 Edinburgh Festival. Since then there have been two volumes of poetry and a variety of translations ranging from de Gaulle's "The Call to Honour," two novels by Kazantzakis, and Kleist's "The Prince of Homburg." In October 1969 "The Journal of Pierre Menard," a small and avidly intellectual literary magazine devoted to translation, published a special Jonathan Griffin issue.

It is undoubtedly as a translator that Mr Griffin excels and he does so with a quiet perseverance which in conversation approaches manic intellectualism. You ask him about the theory of translation and receive in reply a definition and a brief explanation of what poetry is thrown in for good measure.

"Who wants translation? The people who want it really want an idea of the original poem and they want it to be a true idea. Of course they also want it to be a poem and the question is whether you can possibly reconcile the two demands. I think it should be the poetic quality which takes precedence. It must be an authentic poem in the new language, so it becomes a question of sound. The translation has got to sound, absolutely different from the original. And yet there has to be some sort of relation because a poem is an object in which there is a content and a form and they are practically indistinguishable because they determine each other. So what you take is the content and you render that into English. But the sound while it is English, must still remain integral with the content, I think that is what happens."

Mr Griffin's latest work—translations of Fernando Pessoa—is published this month by Carcanet Press. Fernando Pessoa occupies a unique position in European literature. Born in Lisbon in 1898 he died there 47 years later having published a few volumes of poetry in English which nobody read and one

briefly noticed Portuguese edition. Since his death, and the publication of the bulk of his work, Pessoa has emerged as probably the greatest Portuguese poet since Camões in the 16th century. "Modern Poetry in Translation" has plans for a Pessoa issue and next year Penguin will add a further selection of Griffin's translations to their Modern European Poets series.

For the past 12 months Mr Griffin's enthusiasm for his subject has been unstoppable. The picture which unfolds is of an important poet and a fascinating character who managed to sublimely escape a variety of opposing aesthetic passions and styles by creating a Jekyll and Hyde set of characters. He wrote under his own name and those of three heteronyms. Alvaro de Campos was a devoted modernist, Ricardo Reis a classicist, and Alberto Caeiro the sceptic. Each had his own biography and life style and Pessoa went so far as to publish dialogues between the heteronyms. To what extent their creator controlled their work even Pessoa had doubts.

It is this treatment of the division of personality which has haunted and enriched the best writers of our time that inclines Mr Griffin to see Pessoa as a key figure. He says: "Pessoa was reacting against the subjectivism of the Portuguese poets of his period who all went in for what one might describe as late Romantic lyrics. They were very self-indulgent and he was determined to reintroduce intelligence into poetry." Mr Griffin has produced very little original work recently and talks of dedicating himself to translating Pessoa. You leave with the perhaps not too absurd idea of the fourth heteronym.

Jonathan Griffin's translations of Fernando Pessoa are published in a boxed set of four booklets by Carcanet Press, Pin Farm, South Ilkley, Orkney, at £2.

review

ALEXANDRA PALACE

Judy Marle

Art Spectrum

THE IDEA sounded good; to show the best of the work going on now, in London. Overambitious perhaps, but a fault in the right direction. It is one in a series of regional shows put on by the Arts Council. It was hard to see how it could fail to be, at least, a lively show, at best, a real eye-opener. Somehow, somewhere along the assembly line of committees, selectors, and organisers, this good idea materialised into the dismal display now sprawling through the Great Hall of Alexandra Palace.

Obviously a major problem was how to deal with the vast area generously made available by the Greater London Council. Should works be thrown together in no particular order and left to fight it out, or should some kind of shelter be provided for work that would collapse completely without some degree of privacy? In the event, a compromise has been struck: pockets of the hall house shanty-town shelters for the timid, and free-for-all surge around them. It is difficult to orientate oneself to this kind of complex spatial scheme on such a huge scale. It is, for instance, hard to retrace one's steps and return to a work passed some half-hour before.

But, significantly, the only things that manage to survive the brutality of the surroundings—the result of the anonymity of both exhibition and exhibition space—are those that insulate themselves most thoroughly from everything going on around them. This obviously favours environments and those sculptures that generate their own living space. Phyllida Barlow's for example, while forming a predominantly hostile atmosphere for paintings and traditional one-piece sculptures. Paintings here have certainly got their backs to the wall, and a matt, black, beautifully textured piece of sculpture that would have looked dignified almost anywhere else seems merely pompous, plonked down like this in the middle of the circus.

So if pieces do not amplify and strengthen one another, or even live together in harmony, what justification can there be for herding them all together under one roof? This is the distinction between a group which generates a particular atmosphere and attitude, and a survey, which aims at a comprehensive presentation. If this show had succeeded in being a kind of Noah's Ark of art, it would have been vindicated from any criticism. But it doesn't, and the most depressing factor about the whole business is the hard to define but pervasive air of trivia that clings to everything in the hall. There are, of course, a number of good things, but they too seem diminished, sheltered, by their surroundings. Nothing is immune. From the entrance filled with a giant head of a dizzy blonde to the bitter end where one is brought up sharp against the enormous pop-arted organ with (ha-ha) yet actual organ, wilting slightly in comparison, the mood is one of mirthless in-jokes, of camp without bite, of humour and satire both equally insipid and ineffectual.

I know all this will seem a churlish and ungrateful reaction to a show that has had quantities of goodwill, of enthusiasm and sheer hard work lavished on it. But the conclusion that it has been a great opportunity wasted is inescapable. No doubt those involved will be conducting their own inquest. People who go hoping to discover what art is going on now, in London, will also be left wondering.

Art Spectrum London at Alexandra Palace, until August 30.

QEH CONCERT

Hugo Cole

Fischer-Dieskau

A SERIOUS and splendid end to this year's Summer Song Festival at QEH on Monday, with Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau in songs by Schoenberg, Webern, Fortner and Berg: a programme of concentrated musical interest, short in actual time (one and a half hours including interval) but long in terms of listening experience. All groups except the Fortner were

mostly made up of early works. An ordinary how Webern and Berg at a declare their characters in a earlier work. The Webern songs brief, so understated, so simple, dynamic level, in which one feels every dispensable note has been pruned away. The tiny epilogue of very early "an Ufer" echoing the voice phrase, and only changing semi-tone interval to a lone, how let that is: by comparison the (clab) epilogues of all but one of the Schoenberg songs seemed to say much more than needs be said. Webern, Fischer-Dieskau with his shakable steadiness, his control, all aspects over the sounds he met and his great range of tone-colour even in pianissimo — is the perfect interpreter.

The danger of over-reverence, tre each note as if it was a precious to be picked up, so to speak, with forceps — is never there. You that is: he and his accompanist An Reinman approach Webern with respect and understanding, but will being overawed. Fischer-Dieskau's formance is as easy and uncramped his platform manner, which fills with confidence from the moment settles himself with his back as the piano at the starting of a song.

The Fortner songs and setting Hofmannsthal, also economical texture and with some finely exposed writing for the voice, were difficult get hold of at first hearing. The i is highly personal, music, like complex and elusive—more con still in that it superimposes its asymmetrical patterns on the terza rima of the poems; and the gramma, in spite of a recent increase, stingily gives us no EN translation or paraphrase opposit misprinted German text. One hear that these songs were v listening to, but couldn't make more than a fraction of the mes

In the Berg songs, Fischer-Die held the audience spellbound. I again all seemed so simple and music more beautiful than ever. marvelled again at the infinite res of emotional and physical str which he commands, so that eve the biggest climaxes (and they are tremendous) one got the impres that he was nowhere near the of his resources. A three litre cruising at 55 miles per hour.

IKON, BIRMINGHAM

Myfanwy Kitchin

Lawrence Arthur

ONE COLOUR slides into another a series of diagonal straight s They cover areas equally hard and straight-lined which are us as the canvas. Within these i Lawrence Arthur varies his pal considerably. The art form he course, been produced, exhibited, criticised for some years now, there's nothing new. If good a of this sort could only have their commissioned for some part purpose then this would no seem a deadening comment.

In size he goes from small graphic prints to canvases over feet. One of his most effective ing is the canvas entirely in white. It is in three vertical sections a mixed yellows wave across the two, leaving the third a blank yellow. The whole together gi sense of brightness and warmth does not belong to any one of The same could be said of anothe his large simple canvases—a rectangle within a rectangular o in dull light yellow and dull pink, in flat diagonal stripes. colours are separated by a white in the central section and p together with no white on the perimeter.

Some of Arthur's work has a twisting ingenuity rather than an effect. In some his designs are on the shape of a square in pe tive. There is one of three squares in red, pink, and green some areas going side by side, in others one colour is directed at a slightly different angle another painted over it. There many painstaking variations on hard-edged flat-colour cross-hatching. In some designs the pattern of dent is made by a chevron shape. highest breakthrough is a canvas "Blue Rainbow," which has been freely drawn, though hard-edged. Lawrence's "Arthur of the Gallery, Birmingham," until August. Some of these notices appeared in late editions yesterday.

FASHION GUARDIAN

Clothes for promenading • Fragrance versus pollution

Charades for summer

by Mary Stott
pictures by
Frank Martin

THE PRETTIEST summer for years, I called it, though people stuck at home during the July heatwave while I was by the sea in Sussex mightn't even think it a summer to remember. And "prettiest," I discovered, was almost a dirty word to a girl whose style is cool and svelte and said she couldn't find a thing in the shops to buy.

But at two first nights at Chichester the scene was as pretty as the plays were pleasurable—the trees in full leaf, the grass, the evening sunshine and the parade of fluttering frocks and the men in light jackets with bright ties or those seductive little scarves knotted at the side of the throat. There are not many theatres with a setting like Chichester and Stratford, or concert halls like the Maltings

beside the river at Snape, but after all one can promenade by the Thames at the Festival Hall, and there are other places outside London, like the De Montfort Hall, Leicester, where one can savour the gardens in the interval. There are plays in parks, concerts in stately homes—quite a lot of Summer Occasions where the scene is part of the show and you are part of the scene.

Happily, this summer's frocks are often "dressing up" clothes in two senses, for they have a feeling of "let's pretend," a touch of the medieval in the long, floating pointed sleeves; of Mary Stuart in the square necks and tight sleeves; of the Puritan in severe black gowns with heavy white collared, long-sleeved blouses; of Jane Austen in the high-bosomed cottons

patterned like an old-fashioned bedroom wall-paper; of the milk-maid, in the smocked, frilled, and dounced prints. Sleeves are altogether delightful, from puff to bishop, and there is much broderie anglaise, picot edging and lace insertion. "Mock-demure" is the keynote; one of fashion's most engaging ploys.

There is no need to fear that Summer Occasion frocks are no longer available. They have not yet been pushed out of the window displays or off the racks by autumn suits or the "jockey" tops, skirts, and shorts in brilliant parti-coloured satins which are coming along. The stores know that summer "longs" go on very happily into winter for theatres and parties and most, being washable, come up deliciously fresh.

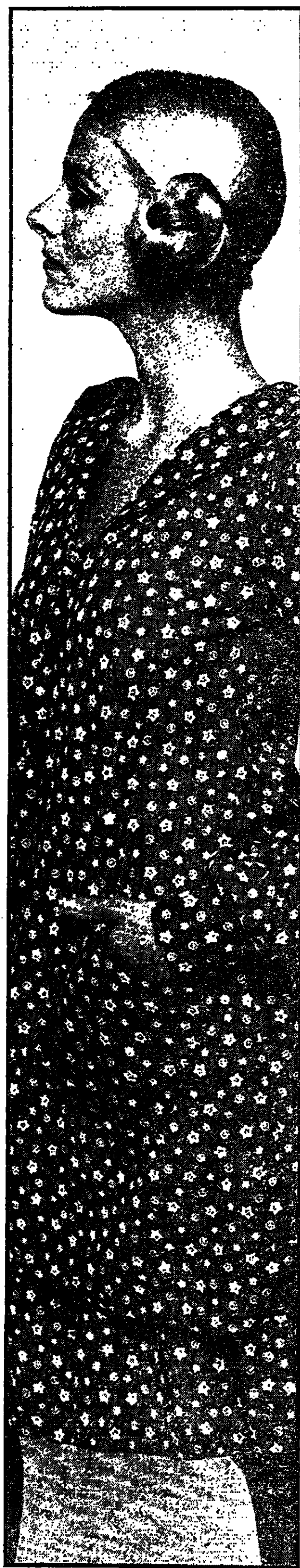
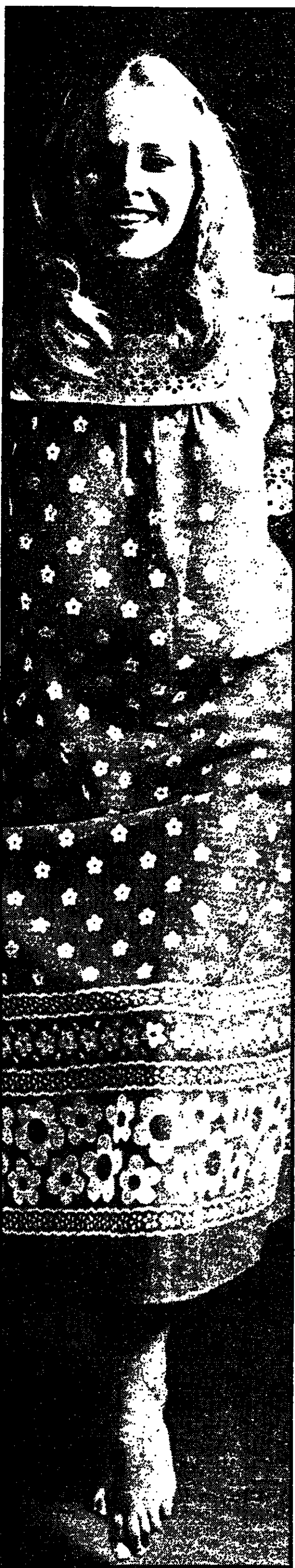
Left: Romantic dress by John Bates at Jean Varon in a bold geometric printed cotton/Terylene, approximately £17.75 at Chanelle, Knightsbridge.

Below: Crepe courtelle midi-top, elasticated at the bottom with a little frill, puff sleeves; elasticated at neck so that it can be worn on or off the shoulder, £2.50; long colourful patchwork skirt £7.50 (short £6.50); rope belt in crepe Courtelle £1.50; all at Martha Hill, 39/41 Marylebone High Street.

Right: Dacron/voile smock style dress in red, navy, turquoise all with white, one size only, £4.45 from the lingerie department at Fenwicks, New Bond Street.

Right centre: Red/white cotton printed dress, fully lined, also in blue/white, from the "Can Can" collection by Bernard Freres. Sizes 10-16, approximately £11 at Just Looking, King's Road; Ricky's, Finchley, Beaconsfield, and Abingdon; Broadbent, Southport; Flair, Sheffield; Cripps, Liverpool; Bonnies, Oxford.

Far right: Sailor outfit in floral printed crepe Courtelle, various colours; top £5.50; loose-pleated knee-length skirt £4.50, long £5.50; all from Martha Hill, 39/41 Marylebone High Street, London W1.



Face savers

Cosmetics by
Pat Taylor

SINCE the beauty business never misses a trick, it was bound to happen sooner or later. Someone had to cash in on the headlines associated with one of the world's biggest problems, pollution—and Goya is first in the field with their new Meadowsong fragrance range for the body.

The range, it is claimed, has been designed to help combat environmental problems and the effects of twentieth-century grime and pollution on the skin. It is based on "natural remedies and minerals which are found in the curative waters of famous French spas." The perfume content emits the reasonably realistic notes of

new mown hay, honeysuckle, clover, and other greenery, and the waving corn packaging theme reinforces the "return to nature" message.

In spite of the news-angled promotion, the products have no "therapeutic" advantage over other toiletry ranges since soothing oils and moisturisers are common ingredients in body care products and minerals are not absorbed externally.

However, the Meadowsong range is based on quality materials, is packaged prettily in glass and plastic, and prices are modest. As examples, natural bath oils and green milk massage both retail at 57p, the deodorised talc at 33p, the hand lotion at 38p, and the fragrance

itself from 43p. So it is worth a trial if you like a really sharp, fresh and outdoors tang.

With the cosmetics market fairly static for some time now, firms are concentrating much more on the growth fragrance field. Boots have just brought out a pleasant new perfume quartet called Refreshers, aimed at the young market, and based on rose and jasmine notes, highlighted with hints of herbs and spices, plus a sharp citrus topnote. Prices start from 30p for the deodorised talc and 40p for the cream perfume.

Going up the price scale, Coty have repackaged and relaunched their warm-hearted Emeraude fragrance

which is promoted on its "compelling, sexy" qualities. Although classified as a sophisticated floral bouquet fragrance, Emeraude is woody, musky, and oriental in character and is based on an exotic mélange of ingredients including citrus oils, jasmine, orange blossom, ylang ylang, lavender, vetiver, sandalwood, patchouli (believed in the East, to have aphrodisiac qualities) and vanilla, as well as natural fixatives. Price from 90p for the eau de Cologne 1½oz size or in cream form £1.30.

Anyone addicted to the highly distinctive scent of carnations should try Roger and Gallet's new Blue Carnation offering—a true carnation fragrance with a definite spicy note of cloves.

Prices are 85p for 2 fl. oz. of eau de toilette, £1.25 for the spray Cologne and £1.12 for three boxed tablets of hand soap.

Bronley have just produced boxes holding three bath size tablets of their excellent Country Herb soaps at 90p the box. The triple fragrances are camomile, rosemary, and melissa; but these pleasantly scented soaps and the other fragrances in the range—basil, witch hazel and marjoram—can also be bought singly at 30p the tablet. I have found them well worth the money provided they are kept selfishly for personal use and the family is provided with one of the good, cheap soaps that abound in the shops.

The world's currency chaos

President Nixon's emergency measures have one primary merit. They ought to remove the last shreds of complacency among Governments and bankers about the state of the world's finances. The explosion has been some years in the making. During those years the US balance of payments has been going ever more deeply into the red. At first the deficit could be accounted for by enormous military and foreign aid commitments around the world. The Vietnam war was also a heavy drain on US payments. But in the past year the United States has faced an unusual and growing deficit in its external trading account. This year will probably see the biggest trade deficit the US has known this century.

All this has happened during a period when countries abroad have become less and less willing to hold huge sums of dollars in lieu of goods and services the United States is unable to provide. Until now dissatisfied foreign central banks had been able to convert unwanted dollars into gold at \$35 per ounce. But, fed by fears that the US payments were going from bad to worse, claims have multiplied and the gold reserves have fallen to \$10,000 millions—or about 20 per cent of total foreign dollar claims on the United States.

The causes of American economic decline are numerous and complex. At the root is the remarkable upsurge in inflation. This has come at a time when capital is highly mobile internationally. Cheap labour abroad—first in Europe, more recently in the Far East—has attracted US investment. Competition from industry in Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, and South Korea has eaten into the traditionally large trade surplus enjoyed by the US. Competition from Britain and the Common Market countries has also been formidable; European motor firms now have the biggest share of American domestic car sales in their history. No one yet has satisfactorily answered the double question—why has inflation become such a problem and why is it no longer being offset to the same extent as in recent decades by rapid application of highly productive new technologies? For whatever reason the US payments gap has become intolerably wide and something had to be done.

From this side of the Atlantic the most serious of the President's measures is the 10 per cent surcharge on imports. Fortunately Washington has resisted the temptation to impose import quotas, which would have been a direct concession to the economic isolationists. Even so, many exports from Britain and Europe are going to be hit badly. Exporters would no doubt be feeling better about the surcharge if they were completely confident that it will not be replaced by more overt protection in future.

The President had no choice but to suspend dollar convertibility into gold. This, in effect, leaves the principal competitors of the US with

little choice but to permit some revaluation of their currencies against the dollar. Ideally the Americans would like to see a large and uniform revaluation against the dollar by the Japanese yen and the main Common Market currencies. But will this happen? The French have spoken out adamantly against any solution to the problem of changing currency parities which does not involve a dollar devaluation against gold. Even if the Europeans agree to revalue upwards against the dollar, will they revalue by enough to make any long term difference to America's foreign trade competitiveness? Finally will the Europeans agree to move up by the same amount? If not, the strains already evident between the Germans and the French over the financing of the Common Market's agricultural price support system could intensify.

At home the President seems to have included some contradictory measures within his package. He talks of the urgent need to reduce the high level of unemployment. At the same time 5 per cent of all Government employees are to be made redundant. It is true that the President proposes a number of measures, including income tax remissions and accelerated investment credits, to try to accelerate the sluggish recovery from last year's industrial recession. But economists like Professor Galbraith have already described the total domestic effect of the package as "one step forwards, two steps back." It is difficult to dissent from this view.

The cut in the foreign aid programme is damaging, although the pressure on the President has been enormous from those who see supreme virtue in a balanced budget and anyway dislike foreign aid. The foreign aid cuts also strengthen the impression that the latest turn in the economic crisis will swell the ranks of those who feel that the US should disengage or detach itself further from foreign commitments.

This mood will not help the search for a comprehensive and rational solution to prevent the international financial mess. For some years now it has been evident that the world would permit the present ramshackle monetary system to remain unreformed at its economic peril. Yet even now there are voices who insist that all is in hand and that we should leave international monetary reform to the convenience of the International Monetary Fund. The IMF is due to meet in September. By then, at latest, a plan for creating a new system of international credit and credit regulation must be agreed by IMF members. Without such an agreement the dollar crisis today will only be followed by new currency dramas elsewhere tomorrow. Unless we are careful, the swing to economic nationalism may be beyond stopping. That is what the warning from across the Atlantic ought to mean.

One Catholic who participated

Peace and acceptable democratic standards will only be achieved in Northern Ireland when Catholics and Protestants learn to work together at every level of government and administration. There is much disagreement about the means of bringing this about, but the objective is surely accepted by everyone whose attitude is not simply sectarian. In this context what has happened to a young Derry Catholic, Danny Barr, during the past 48 hours is worth studying.

One of the most persistent complaints during the civil rights campaign in Northern Ireland was of partiality by the police. The B Specials, now disbanded, were a purely Protestant and largely Orange force. The Royal Ulster Constabulary had too few Catholics in its ranks to be anything like representative of the population as a whole. The reforms initiated after the Hunt report were intended, among other aims, to put this right.

Danny Barr joined the RUC in 1959, long before the present troubles. This weekend he went to visit his grandparents in the Bogside,

apparently ignoring a warning from local people that he might face trouble. According to reports he was severely beaten up by the crowd in the Bogside or the IRA or both. It took the joint efforts of four or five Catholic priests, an Army chaplain, the Northern and Southern police, and the British Army Border post to get him to hospital—at Letterkenny, in the Republic. He was brought back to a Northern hospital yesterday. The Bogside on Sunday had lain down in front of the ambulance taking him away.

It has been a poor week for those who believe—unlike Mr Paisley's followers or the IRA—in greater Catholic participation in public life. The IRA Provisionals' press conference was attended by one of the Catholic members of the Police Authority set up under the Hunt report, as well as by a Catholic MP. But at that level it has always been clear that to achieve a greater participation by Catholics in government will be difficult. What must produce a mood of near-despair is the mobbing of a young Catholic who only wanted to do a job in the police. Would the Bogside prefer a wholly Protestant police force

Japan considers its course

Japan has suffered a double blow—the sudden announcement of President Nixon's plan to visit China, now followed by the dollar measures. The two together accentuate an existing problem: what will Japan and all South-east Asia do in a world of changing power relations? For Japan in particular, the question is acute: is it to rearm in the interests of its own security?

Tokyo took the announcement of President Nixon's visit to China as a rebuff and it has taken the dollar announcement as another. The first caused bewilderment. The old enemy, China, was to receive a US presidential visit before Japan. This was seen as an ill reward for services faithfully rendered. It worsened relations with the United States already strained by continued economic quarrels. For Washington's secrecy over the talks with Peking there were good reasons—as there were over the currency crisis, Japan, has nevertheless, been forced to think hard about the future.

Japan has to decide whether to stand alone.

Bankers have been known to keep Samuel Pepys* in the vaults



Sam's Chop House

Back Pool Fold, Manchester, 2.

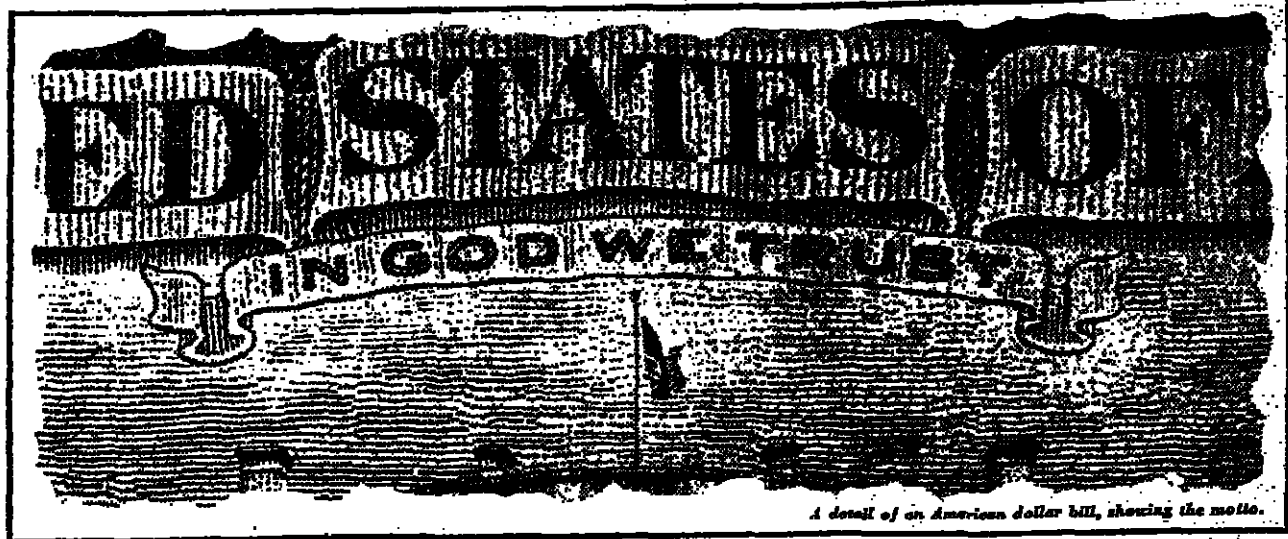
and if so on what terms. It is beginning to feel that it can no longer assume the military and political backing of the United States as a constant factor. Japan's own decision will be of great concern in South-east Asia. Already it ranks third in the world's economic table. If it were to decide to develop its own military potential, what would the consequences be? For a country of Japan's technological sophistication, the nuclear option is near at hand. In Tokyo, of course, there is talk only of developing a defensive capacity. Other nations in South-east Asia, mindful of Japan's militaristic past, are suspicious that the Bushido warrior code will rise again. The American withdrawal seems to make it more likely.

For the Prime Minister, Mr Eisaku Sato, the American shift of policy spells trouble. He, like many of his older generation, have been reluctant to move politically closer to Peking. But opposition has been building up both within the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and among the opposition parties. The LDP has had a bad electoral year. The anti-Sato lobby has been growing. Mr Sato depended on the American policy as an excuse for not moving diplomatically closer to Peking, and on the American alliance as the basis for security. The rug has been removed from under his feet.

A COUNTRY DIARY

CHESHIRE: On these warm evenings, with the windows open after dark, many night-flying insects enter the lighted rooms. One of the most frequent of these visitors is the little black dor-beetle, aphidius rufipes, which crashes violently against walls and ceiling until it falls, apparently none the worse, to the floor. Wasps are again becoming a pest—in our house especially, for a wasp snapped up by an unwary dog can sometimes be fatal. The insect's nuisance value, however, tends to make us forget their services in destroying a multitude of harmful creatures, for they are largely carnivorous. Recently a wasp alighted upon a sun-warmed fence-post against which I was leaning. It had a slender brown flower-beetle in its jaws and it was fascinating to watch it at its meal. First the head was snipped off, then the elytra, and the wasp turned the beetle round and round until all nourishment had been extracted from it when it spurned the corpse away and bounced into the air again. The flowers of coltsfoot are welcome harbinger of spring but the plant is not welcome in the garden. Last March a small piece of it was dropped in the hedge near my house and it managed to send down roots through the grass and even came into flower. Now it has formed a patch of large coarse leaves a yard across.

L. P. SAMUELS.



ANTHONY HARRIS, our Economics Editor, on the seven-year crisis of the dollar

Last act or new interval?

THE question of dollar convertibility began to be a crisis in November 1964. It then seemed likely that a devaluation of the pound might be provoked because of low international confidence in the new Wilson Government in Britain. The governors of the New York Federal Reserve Bank went to work in the middle of the night (New York time) to get their fellow central bankers round the world to support sterling: after a day of telephone calls and emergency meetings, they had mustered \$3,000 millions and persuaded nearly everyone who mattered to chip in.

Lord Cromer got the credit for that operation, because it was important to conceal the depth of American concern, but it was no act of altruism: the Americans rightly reasoned that as long as the world held part of its reserves in shaky sterling, the dollar would look safe by comparison.

For three years the Americans went on defending the pound; but after we devalued in 1967 it became a straight dollar crisis: at roughly six-month intervals we had the 1968 gold crisis and the Washington meeting which allowed free private trade in gold; the November crisis when the Germans refused to revalue, a crisis the following spring when they refused again, and yet another in the autumn when they finally moved. This year the crisis has been more or less continuous.

Why is a dollar crisis so special, and so protracted and agonising? The great weight of the US economy is only a small part of the cause—indeed, in terms of international trade the US is no longer particularly dominant. Britain, for example, does nearly twice as much trade with the EEC, even from the outside, as she does with the US.

What is important is that the major part of the world's wealth is held in dollars. If one imagines the world economy as a national one, a doubt about the French franc is like a question of the pricing policy or credit-worthiness of a large company (say Rolls-Royce). But a crisis about the pound or the dollar is a question of the credit-worthiness of the banks: that can cause a panic.

There are therefore two quite separate questions wrapped up in the dollar crisis: an ordinary parity question, and a question about the world monetary system. Equally, two kinds of solution are required if we are to avoid similar crises in the future: an adjustment of parities—the values of one currency in terms of others—tethered with a better system of adjusting parities in the future.

That set of questions is quite likely to be resolved in a reasonably satisfactory way in the next few days or weeks, because it has been under discussion for years.

But the second question—whether we are prepared to go on storing our international wealth—our reserves—in the form of dollars, or whether we need something new: what is called in the jargon "a new reserve asset." That is the question raised by the American refusal to sell gold on demand (an undertaking which has been a bit of a sham for some years anyway). Unfortunately, we have hardly begun to look at that one.

The parity question is the most urgent now being discussed: it is mainly a problem of agreeing on the numbers. In every country the exporters will want to keep their own currency reasonably cheap in international terms, to preserve their competitive position: consumers, who benefit from a dear currency and cheap imports, are not so well informed or powerful lobbyists—and in any case must fear the effects of a large revaluation in their role as producers.

The parity doubt has arisen because it is now clear that many American producers—from television set manufacturers to hotelkeepers—can no longer meet foreign competition. The Americans now do not merely have a balance of payments deficit (this has been normal since the war, and is the major source of the world's reserves of dollars), they even have a deficit on straight trade, for the first time since 1873, and foreign competition is helping to cause slack trade and unemployment inside the US.

In any other country, the answer would be to devalue, which would at the same time help the trade balance and stimulate the economy (though it would tend to make inflation of prices worse). It is technically difficult to devalue the dollar, which is the standard in which other currencies are measured, though not wholly impossible: but in any case, when the dollar's purchasing power is measured against others, some are more unequal than others.

The aim of the present talks is to get an agreed range of adjustments which would leave the dollar devalued by different amounts against different countries: two of the most interesting questions are whether the Japanese can be bullied into making a big enough adjust-

ment (some international authorities think that the yen should go up by 25 per cent or more), and whether we in Britain can get away without making any adjustment at all.

(The argument is that, although we have a big surplus now, we will not have one when we have revalued and joined the EEC: it amounts to saying that the pound needs to be devalued along with the dollar, and it remains to be seen whether our competitors in the EEC and other countries are willing to see it that way.)

This is at least a relatively straightforward question, and so is the rather longer-term one: how are we to manage parity adjustments in the future? It has been generally agreed for some years that these adjustments need "de-dramatising," and for several months now it has been fairly generally agreed how this should be done. It is a system known as "wider bands and smaller changes"—a system in which the free-market fluctuations in currency values would be rather bigger, and changes in official parities rather smaller and more frequent.

There is still disagreement about numbers: the Americans have proposed a 6 per cent band (3 per cent above or below official parity), while the French would favour a much smaller 3 per cent band (the present system allows for 1 per cent either side of parity, or a 2 per cent band). But there is little doubt about the shape of the agreement, and most people expected to see some agreement formalised in Washington at the end of next month, when the Governors of the International Monetary Fund (who are in fact the Finance Ministers of the member States) hold their annual meeting.

This agreement, however, will not solve the whole problem, because it will not touch the technical problem of the dollar itself (how, as it were, do you devalue the inch?) and because the effective devaluation of the dollar will equally devalue all the international reserves held in dollars. A dollar bank account will never again look such an attractive form of wealth. Both problems would theoretically be solved by the adoption of a new reserve asset, which would be both a stable unit of value and a reliable form in which to store wealth; but as the Irishman said when asked for some difficult directions: "I'm not sure that you can get there from here."

The first difficult question

In 1964, American help to Britain was no act of altruism...

ULSTER: the political failure

TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—Am I alone in my feelings of intense nausea at the adoption of the technique of fascism by the Ulster and UK Governments? It is quite clear that very few care. The effecting of a measure which is well known to be greatly admired by Mr Vorster is greeted by applause from the Right-wing press and shrug of the shoulders from the Establishment liberal press.

The Labour Party, if not in agreement with the internment, certainly isn't in disagreement. The Republic of Ireland makes the expected noises while everyone knows that they will be only too happy to follow suit if it becomes politically possible.

At the very least we must demand: 1. That all detainees be allowed to see their lawyers and to be in constant touch with them.

2. That all arrested people appear in a court of law to answer charges against them.

3. That United Nations observers be asked to maintain constant surveillance in the detention camps and prisons.

4. That the RUC should have no part whatsoever in controlling the detainees.

5. That if gunmen are being rounded up it should also apply to Protestant gunmen who will no doubt take advantage of the army's attack on the Catholics.

But even this would be unsatisfactory. It is time that the opposition to the entire exercise emerged. The fact is that Ulster politics have failed, the dispatch of the army to Ulster has failed, and the main-

tenance of "law and order" in Ulster has failed. These failures are political failures and no amount of military repression and political suppression can turn failure to success.—Yours faithfully,

Tony Greaves,
Chairman,
Northwestern Region Liberal Party,
Burnley, Lancs.

Sir,—Your reporter Harold Jackson says (August 14) that Ireland has two choices: "It can be free and poor or prosperous and dependent." This is a most unusual statement since it is contradicted at once by past and by contemporary events.

Historically, Ireland knows to her discomfort how prosperous she became when she was dependent—she even exported corn during the famine which devastated her population. As for contemporary examples, we are all reminded now of how prosperous, contented and affluent is that country still bound up with England: Scotland, in Glasgow, they must have choked on their morning tea when they read Mr Jackson.—Yours faithfully,

James Gamble,
47 Colville Road,
London E11.

Sir,—The best parallel to Northern Ireland is not Cyprus, but Algeria. France was faced, as Britain is today, with the problem of a settler community, regarding Algeria as its home but requiring a different government from the native population. In the end, France took the only course: it made the settlers choose between an

Algerian Algeria or a trip to Marseilles.

In Ulster, the Protestants have much deeper roots than ever the French settlers had, but the choice is essentially the same. They cannot expect a peaceful rule while claiming allegiance to another country. Ulstermen must find their solution in an Irish Ireland or not at all.—Yours etc,

Julian Thompson,
87 Cranmer Road,
London SW 9.

Sir,—I suggest Harold Jackson adds internment to his list of reforms.—Yours faithfully,
F. T. Dudge,
8 Chatsworth Avenue,
Hendon NW 4.

Sir,—You are probably right in suggesting that Prime Minister Mr Lynch's statement about replacing the Stormont Government is inflammatory. But when you say also that "constructive political discussion should come after the restoration of calm and order," I am not so sure that you are right.

Surely nothing should stand in the way of constructive discussion. It should be taking place now, and to ensure justice being done a third party should be introduced.

The Dublin Government has hinted that it favours setting up a Consultative Commission. If the parties concerned agreed to inviting the United Nations to nominate an impartial advisory commission, the composition of which was agreed by the parties, would not that be a promising way forward?—Yours etc,

Herbert Collins,
38 Brookvale Road,
Southampton.

The right to worship

Sir,—I was concerned to read (Guardian, August 13) that Pakistani Moslems who use the front room of a house in Slough for prayers have been ordered to stop by the council, acting under the Town and Country Planning Act of 1968. The problem appears to be that the house is being used as a meeting place although it is in a residential area. By the letter of the law the decision of the council is correct, but surely the spirit of the law has been lost.

I am sure that most people have experience of meetings held in residential houses whether of businessmen, political groups, social workers or whatever. But the borough engineer has freely admitted that complaints have been received, and this is not surprising considering that their meetings take the form of silent meditations.

In an area with a large immigrant population, where race relations are of paramount importance, it seems a pity that the letter of the law should be so rigidly enforced, with an apparent lack of sympathy towards a group of Moslems who wish only to worship their God in their way.—Yours sincerely,

Robert F. Badwell,
Farnham Common,
Nr Slough, Bucks.

The steam from the President's freeze



As midnight converts, President Nixon and his financial advisers have obviously got a great deal of work to do in the next three months if their new economic game plan is not to seem merely a desperate stop-gap solution.

Sir Frank said the report was directed not principally at the industry but at local authorities. He pointed out that the Government had made no contribution so far but when asked whether he thought they would begrudge spending money now, gave what he called a "parliamentary answer": he did not doubt that in future their attitude would be "intelligent." Let me draw



CHRISTOPHER FORD on horses, gestures, and the toughest Tyke

Bunn has personally to sign the winner's cheque. "I think he won't," "He has to sign the cheque," says Smith. And will he appeal? "What is there to appeal about? I haven't been disqualified."

● **Variation on a theme, called from a shop window in Halesowen:** "French lady is willing to sell her moped at a low price." What will they think of next?

Springfield Park was

Use up your old pennies and 3d bits before September 1st

BUSINESS GUARDIAN

Guardian City Offices: 831 Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C.2

Edited by Anthony Harris and Charles Raw

Truman's supports GM—by one vote

By LINDSAY VINCENT

The fate of Truman Hanbury Juxon is more finely balanced than at any time during the mammoth struggle for the company, but at least the battle is now moving into the final stages. Truman yesterday decided to support his support for Grand Metropolitan Hotels—by a narrow margin of one vote.

Truman's offer values Truman Juxon at 17.7M, and it is highly unlikely that either party will make a further revision of terms. GM does not need to in new of Truman's support, and Truman's offer for tactical and strategic reasons is clearly its best.

Though Watney has lost Truman's recommendation, this is not necessarily a blow as one might expect. Four of the nine strong directors will be sending a circular to shareholders.

Truman's expense—explaining why they recommend acceptance of Watney, and with money terms, there will be a powerful cushion against the recommendation.

The four directors in favour of Watney are the same as those who opposed GM in the early stages of the bitter struggle.

Mr Duncan said last night at the letter advising against GM will go out shortly. The appropriate time would be just after the current offer expires on August 23.

Mr Duncan felt Watney's offer was "more commercially justified" and felt they had a clearer view of the industry and Truman's role in it than GM. He so maintained that the voting results would be a foregone conclusion.

These figures were available all the time, but the vote went against Watney by 54:46. A pro-GM faction are just that, a host of reasons, including a question of Truman's identity under a different corporate name. Watney's answer to it was a change of name to the Laid Group, announced his departure which, he maintains, created "an unfortunate public impression."

Mixed reaction by industry to US moves

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

British industry gave a mixed reaction yesterday to President Nixon's economic package, which includes a 10 per cent surcharge on imports.

It was accepted that British exports to the US are bound to be hit by the measures, but there were still too many imponderables to make any serious estimates of the possible extent of the damage.

First, the extent of any realignment of parities, which (unlike the import surcharge) would affect both imports and exports, had yet to be decided.

Most big companies consider the pattern of the currency realignments to be much more important than the surcharge. Second, it is not known to what extent any revival of consumer spending would pre-empt the worrying trend towards protectionism in the world.

About 12 per cent of Britain's (£333 million) exports go to the United States. The country's biggest exporter, the Scotch whisky and gin industry (nearly £100 million) professes to be worried by the 10 per cent surcharge.

It believes that Scotch has no serious competitors in the United States and demand is not very sensitive to price increases.

But other companies whose products are highly competitive on the US market, like pottery manufacturers and tweed companies, expressed serious worries.

Britain's motor industry, which is the country's second largest exporter to the United States, is probably in the most vulnerable position of any large industry. It is already facing big cost increases to meet stringent US pollution regulations and now its cars will increase in cost by at least 64 per cent and perhaps more if the dollar is devalued by more than that amount. This is bound to make American "subcom-

Unresolved "policy problems" led to last week's departure from the company, Mr Norman Cave, the company's chief executive and deputy chairman. In his first statement since leaving the company, Mr Cave criticises the manner in which the Department of Trade and Industry and the Laid Group announced his departure which, he maintains, created "an unfortunate public impression."

Mr Cave said the reason for his departure was a disagreement with the shareholders on unresolved policy problems.

"This is not to say," he adds, "that the shareholders do not recognise the progress that has been made to the restoration of the company's fortunes following the financial crisis of last year. They have acknowledged the extent of my own efforts in this direction and they have also recognised the importance to the future of the company of the naval orders which have been procured from the Ministry of Defence in recent months."

Since the Birkenhead shipyard was taken over by the Government in 1970, it has had three shareholders—the Government and the Laid Group—each with 50 per cent of the shares. A Canadian, Mr Graham Day, was brought in to replace Mr Cave last week.

which are largely imported from Germany, Japan and Britain more expensive relative to the mainstream American models. This will affect the Chrysler "Crisquet," "Aventador" and "Ford" of which have already been sent from Britain to the United States since it was introduced in January.

British Ford, which supplies engines and other parts for the parent's Pinto subcompact will also be hit.

There are two long term dangers here. One is that it will swing big American companies like Ford and Chrysler against importing so much from Europe because of the increased costs. Second, there is a danger that Japanese and German companies which have swept all before them in the United States, will turn increasingly to European and British markets, to sell surplus production which they cannot sell in America because of the increased price differential.

This could offset the one potential gain which British car manufacturers can look forward to from the current talks—that Britain's currency will be revalued less than that of our major European competitors.

This would give the industry a much needed boost in European markets. If Britain does not get a competitive advantage from the currency talks then

the prospects of increased German and Japanese competition in European markets could prove very serious for the British industry.

In theory British Leyland emerges more favourably than Chrysler, Vauxhall or Ford from the effects of the American package since the vast majority of its exports to the United States are sports cars whose sales are not so sensitive to price changes as saloon cars. However, British Leyland has plans to introduce the "Marina" range in America. Unlike its sports car range the Marina is not a very profitable car and difference of 10 per cent could make the British group think seriously about its plans.

The Rolls-Royce RB211 engine for Lockheed, Britain's biggest single export contract, could be hit by the US move but nobody at Rolls or at the Department of Trade and Industry knew yesterday how it would be affected.

Mr Fred Corfield, Minister for Aerospace, said that he did not know if existing contracts like the RB211 would be exempt. A Rolls-Royce spokesman said: "Nobody knows until we know the details." He said he did not know whether there was a clause in the contract covering parity or tariff changes, and neither did a Lockheed spokesman in London.

If a surcharge has to be paid on the engines Rolls might be

lucky and find that Lockheed is liable—but this in turn might seriously damage Lockheed again. The Rolls spokesman stressed that President Nixon had used the word "temporary" in describing the surcharge and said that no payments were due from Lockheed this year.

The chemical industry believes that the parity changes could have much more important effects than the surcharge. The industry is already hit by the American selling price system under which duty is levied not on the import price but on the price ruling for similar products made in the USA. The Chemical Industries Association was not sure yesterday to which price the surcharge would apply.

In any case, it is uncertain whether either way the surcharge would make much difference to our £44 million chemical exports to the US because ASP has distorted the type of product which is exported there towards those which are price insensitive.

The West German Chemical Industry Federation warned against possible world-wide protectionist escalation that could result from the surcharge on US imports.

The Chemical Industry Federation noted that its products would rise 18 per cent in price in the US if the 10 per cent import surcharge is applied.

Machinery fears

ICI's reaction yesterday to the moves was "it's too early to say and it's not even clear to our men in the USA. Our exports to North America last year were \$18.5 million, mostly to the US."

Machinery exports to the US might be affected. The machine-tool industry—which sold only \$9 million worth to America last year—can hardly afford to lose any markets at the moment, and US devaluation might bring a further threat to its home markets with more American imports.

The electrical industry, dominated by the giant GEC—which said yesterday it did not know the effects the moves would have—exports a wide range of products to the USA. GEC could be affected both on the heavy electrical side and in electronics, although total UK exports to the USA in these fields are not large—only a few tens of millions. US devaluation might strengthen electronics exports from the USA, particularly of components.

Smaller industries such as sewing machines—in which there have already been recent UK redundancies—and typewriter makers may be hit. These two rely to a certain extent on Britain's lower labour costs.

Agricultural machinery—with companies such as Massey-Ferguson—might be affected. Last year Britain exported £7 million worth of tractors to the USA.

Mr Arthur Bryan, chairman of the Wedgwood Group, commenting on the US dollar situation said: "This proposed 10 per cent levy on imports into the USA—if it is imposed on our merchandise, which we think is probable—is bound to intensify our difficulties in an already tough trading climate for British exporters, many of whom look to America as a premier overseas market."

Some 65 per cent of Wedgwood's production is exported, 40 per cent of that total going to the American market.

World depression

Textiles have been one of the most sensitive imports into America and many British firms expressed relief that more restrictive action, such as quotas, had not been announced by the President. In general however there was a resigned acceptance that it was a small additional burden to an industry which has long suffered from world-wide depression.

British textile exports fall into two categories. There is the traditional market for men's suitings which sell on quality and reputation. America forms Yorkshire's second largest export market but is already suffering from the world textile depression and American imports this year in any case are expected to be at their lowest level for 16 years.

Mr Geoffrey Richardson of the National Wool Textile Export Federation pointed out that the American duties on wool textiles are already among the highest in the world and can add up to more than 45 per cent.

Scottish tweed producers also drew attention to the enormous tariff barrier they already have to face and Mr A. O. Bottomley, president of the National Association of Scottish Woollen Manufacturers described it as a "bad blow" for the trade.

Most of the major companies were still studying the effects yesterday but Mr Jan Lewando, chairman of Carrington Vyella which exported about 25 million of goods to America last year, was unworried by the move. "It'll make life a little more difficult but we'll have to surmount it."

The clothing industry was less pleased. An official of the Clothing Export Council said that it would have a dampening effect on exports which are running at £16 million a year. "We deplore any across the board increase in duties," he added, "We prefer these to be negotiated by GATT in the normal way."

Exchange markets to stay closed as officials haggle

BY OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

Foreign exchange markets are to remain closed again today. This was announced last night by the Treasury as monetary officials from around the world bargained at the US Embassy in London in an effort to reach agreement on a new monetary system.

Most other European markets, which also closed yesterday "for an indefinite period" following the announcement of President Nixon's suspension of convertibility of the dollar, will continue closed today. Gold markets are also shut, except in the Far East.

In London the City's money markets were thrown into confusion by the authorities' actions yesterday morning. Foreign exchange dealers arrived at their desks to find that the Treasury and the Bank of England had suspended not only buying and selling of sterling against dollars and all other currencies, but had also forbidden banks to deal in dollar deposits.

There was a wave of protests as many banks pointed out that they had liabilities falling due yesterday and their books would not balance if they could not cover their positions. The Bank quickly relented and as a result there was a rush for overnight dollars as banks scrambled to borrow dollars to cover their open, speculative positions taken over the weekend.

This at one time drove the rate for overnight dollars right up to 45 to 50 per cent, but later it fell back to some 30 per cent.

One theory as to why the Bank of England changed its mind on dealing in dollar deposits was that some smaller banks would be highly embarrassed by not being able to cover their positions.

The official line, however, was that as the supply and demand for dollar deposits had nothing to do with determining the price of dollars it could be allowed to continue, as it has been on previous occasions when the market has been closed.

Although the foreign exchange markets were officially closed in Germany, there was some dealing in dollars in Frankfurt. Banks, however, were quoting very wide margins at one point a quote of 3.25 Dm—the lowest ever—was made for dollars, but the rate improved towards the end of the day to end little down on its weekend level.

The Japanese, the parity of whose currency must play an important part in any negotiations over a general realignment, allowed their foreign exchange markets to stay open. The authorities there decided

to support the dollar and dealers estimated they bought in about \$600 million or \$700 million at the official parity.

In Paris foreign exchange markets were closed yesterday for the Assumption Day holiday, but the Finance Ministry announced they would remain closed today.

In Switzerland a special working committee was set up to study the US measures and there was a Cabinet meeting. No Swiss representatives were invited to the London meeting by Mr Volcker.

In New York itself, where of course there is no intervention from the authorities, foreign exchange dealing was allowed yesterday. There were reports of "heavy" inquiries, but with European centres closed and many foreign exchange dealers going home early, actual trading was light.

Markets were quoted at one point at 29.80 to 29.75 cents, up from Friday's close of about 29.48 cents. The Canadian dollar rose 20 points to \$US0.9910. Sterling was quoted 151 points higher at \$2.4350.

CITY COMMENT

MARKETS

Avoiding a devaluation?

YES, WE'VE been here before. Devaluation is good for domestic manufacturers and exporters, bad for the rest of the world's traders. So on Wall Street share prices shot ahead as institutions and speculators rushed blindly in to buy—the first hour's trading was the biggest volume ever recorded—and at one point the Dow Jones Industrial Index was up by 33½ points—and throughout the rest of the world, stock markets sagged.

Worst hit was Japan, where a near 6 per cent slump was registered, triggered off not just by the adverse effects of Nixon's measures but by fears that the major round of currency revaluations throughout the world will be taken as an opportunity to revalue the yen, not just against the dollar, but to a lesser extent against other parties.

In London the reaction was more restrained—a 3.5 fall in the Financial Times Index to 409.3. This in fact represented a minor rally on the cuts which have been instituted at the opening in anticipation of a wave of selling in the uncertainty and crisis atmosphere that inevitably follows such economic moves. Aided by the holiday period, selling was practically non-existent and with some light buying orders earlier price falls were partially recouped.

There were exceptions, of course, among the big dollar earners. BSE slumped 27½, British American Tobacco fell 11½, and Hawker and Distillers both about 7p. In motors too, British Leyland edged 11½, but on the whole investors were prepared to view the changes strictly as a short-term temporary measure in their effects on UK trade.

The sharp rise in prices on Wall Street shows what a cynical view was taken there to the dividends and price freeze, which is only for 90 days. Where UK equities go from here depends to a great extent on what happens in the currency markets during the next 90 days. The 10 per cent American surcharge on imports amounts to a devaluation of the dollar in its effects on export to America. The rest of the world is now expected to revalue its currencies against the dollar to provide a similar effect on prices, so that this surcharge can be taken off.

The uncertainty for UK equities lies in whether these realignments around the world will be on broadly similar lines so that parity rates outside the USA remain as at present, or whether advantage will be taken of the present crisis to have varying levels of realignment throughout the rest of the world.

In the former event Britain's trading position would deteriorate with America, but be all square with the rest of the world. The net effect would still be bearish since we would lose out against American domestic manufacturers in what is a £933 million-a-year market.

On the other hand there is a compelling argument for the latter course of action; that is, that Britain's revaluation should be smaller than other European countries, and certainly smaller than Japan's.

The real justification for this, at a time when we have such a healthy current trade position with the rest of the world, is that it would prepare us for entry to the Common Market in 1973. It has long been argued that the dollar devaluation would be necessary to cover the costs of EEC entry, and this is the opportunity.

A smaller revaluation than most other countries would amount to a devaluation of the pound in most areas of the world. It would still leave us less competitive against domestic American manufacturers, but this would be neutralised by the competitive advantages gained against other exporters to that market. Throughout the world, it would mean great competitive cost advantages, or alternatively profit advantages. And to the stock markets it would mean that boom days were here again. But it depends on what happens in these next 90 days.

WATNEY MANN

GOLD

Two markets, two views

ANTICIPATION rather than the event has been the key to successful gambling in gold shares throughout the currency crises of the past few years and those who ignored this fact and rushed into gold shares yesterday may find this morning have losses to count rather than profits.

The dealing set predictably rushed into gold shares early yesterday morning and good gains were scored in each of the major South African issues. They later eased back but still closed showing a surplus on the day. New York significantly took the opposite view and the gold sector was one area of sharply lower prices in a day when the whole market moved sharply up.

The stock market of course, was without the guide of the gold market as trading was suspended—except in Macao and Hongkong—but signs are that the gold price will not move sharply higher when trading is resumed and as the current prices of so many gold stocks are mortgaged to hopes of a higher official price, New York probably interpreted the situation much better than share dealers in London and Johannesburg.

In fact, the argument for gold shares as a hedge against a US devaluation may have gone for ever because of yesterday's events. President Nixon said gold will leave Fort Knox "only in special circumstances" and the price will be held at \$35 an ounce. Paul Volcker of the US Treasury, arriving in London, also kissed the gold standard goodbye with the view that gold's role was diminished "and will continue to diminish."

So, as the Americans see it gold will become an industrial commodity more than anything else. Industrial demand for gold has been growing but there is no shortage and if supply and demand factors governed the price, dealers doubt that it would retain its current level. Another factor facing the free market—and this is where most producers are selling the bulk of their output—is the position of speculators who may feel the time has come to give the game up.

Still, it is probably more realistic to assume that gold will continue to play a part in the monetary system and in the bargaining that is now to take place over a new sys-

tem and a new set of parities, the US may be forced to give some ground and concede a devaluation of the dollar against gold in return for a revaluation of other currencies.

Nevertheless, the rewards for gold speculators in this event would not be likely to be large. Should, say, the average devaluation of the dollar turn out to be 10 per cent, then the Americans could be pressurised into a like adjustment of the gold price. With the last quote in the free market around \$43 an ounce, that means the mines will be no better off, especially as there is no reason to think the two-tier gold market will be abandoned.

The situation will doubtless be a little clearer within the next day or two, but for the moment the argument in favour of gold shares seems heavily outweighed by the argument against.

WATNEY MANN

City wants a short measure

THE CITY seems determined to cut Watney down to size should it win control of Truman. In spite of denials from all parties, the rumours grow that Allied Breweries is preparing a takeover bid for International Distillers, the wines and spirits distributing and retailing arm of Watney, which holds 37½ per cent of the equity.

Speculators have even put a price on the deal—95p a share—but such a figure would value IDV at a total of £22 million which, even in the current climate of fancy-price bids, would seem to rule it out of court for Allied on anything other than a purely paper bid.

Swapping one company's paper for another's would hardly hold out any enticement for Watney particularly if it meant control of its wines and spirits supplier passing to a competitor.

This is not to say that some sort of not be arranged to everyone's satisfaction. Allied could always put its wines and spirits interests into IDV on much the same lines as Watney did, and then trade with it as a third party at arms-length.

Or, of course, if the mysterious buyer of Watney shares did turn out to be an American bidder with existing distilling interests, as some say, the sale of the IDV stake might be necessary to avoid those notorious American anti-trust laws. IDV's J and B Rare Scotch Whisky is a leading brand in the US.

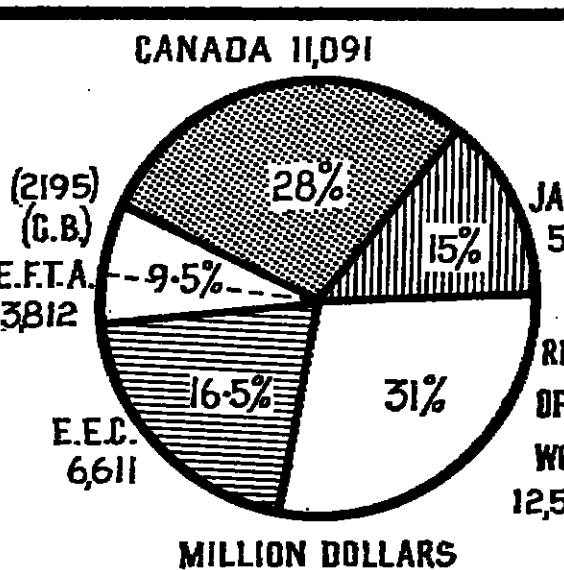
AIRFIX

Selling to save?

IT LOOKS AS IF Airfix Industries may be solving some of its financing problems by selling off bits of its empire. Rumour in the City is that the group has arranged to sell off its Airflow Houseboat offshoot for \$450,000 in cash. At the company's headquarters no one was available to comment.

The sale of this division would certainly make sound sense. The Airfix group's expertise lies in plastics moulding technology while Airflow has concentrated on metal housewares. Soaring raw material costs here left the group nursing a \$58,000 loss in this division last year.

MAIN EXPORTERS TO THE USA IN 1970



So far this year imports by the United States have been running at an annual rate of \$45,000 million

What Britain exports to America...

Whisky topped the list of Britain's 1970 exports to the US last year followed by diamonds and cars, with the Lockheed contracts for Rolls-Royce engines likely to take a large engine to the top of the league if there are no more hitches.

The £70 million of diamond exports were in fact a bit of an illusion because the value added in Britain was small, and they could almost be dropped from the trade accounts with little effect on the balance of payments. Much the same applied to platinum, of which £20 million was exported to the US.

British spirits worth £104 million, mostly Scotch whisky, were sold in the US last year. The motor industry sold \$62 million worth of cars. Motor vehicle parts added £25 million and motor-cycles £13 million.

Jet and gas turbines for aircraft worth £33 million and aircraft worth £16 million were exported. There were also £24 million worth of internal combustion engines for non-aircraft uses. Chemicals accounted for £44 million and textile yarns and fabrics £29 million.

The £44 million figure includes elements and compounds (£20 million) and plastics (£28 million). Medicines and pharmaceutical products were £4.8 million.

Exports of manufactured goods classed by material totalled £240 million. This included leather goods, £7.7 million, rubber, £8 million;

textiles £29 million; diamonds, £70 million; iron and steel, £50 million; platinum, £20 million; and non ferrous metals, £31 million.

Machinery and transport equipment totalled £333 million, made up of £163 million of non-electrical machinery, £25 million of electrical machinery and appliances, and £126 million of transport equipment.

The non-electrical machinery figure included aircraft engines and internal combustion engines, textile machinery and typewriters.

Electrical machinery included £10 million of measuring and control instruments and £8.5 million of telecommunications equipment. Scientific, professional and other instruments together with photographic and optical goods and watches and clocks accounted for a further £23 million. Clothing was worth £16 million and footwear £8 million.

Other items included gramophones, tape recorders, records, tapes and parts, £16 million; books, £13 million; newspapers and magazines, £3.3 million; and paintings, drawings and sculptures £12.2 million.

Food and live animals accounted for £2 million and inedible crude materials except fuels £16 million. This includes £8 million worth of textile fibres and £4 million worth of hides, skins and furs.

Petroleum and petroleum products brought in £4.7 million.

...and what we buy

The USA exported £1,170 million worth of goods to Britain last year. The figures might get a boost if the outcome of yesterday's announcements is an effective devaluation of the dollar relative to the pound.

The biggest total is machinery and transport equipment, worth £471 million. Food and live animals total £121 million; beverages and tobacco, £87 million; crude inedible materials, £87 million; and chemicals, £109 million (well over twice the UK exports of chemicals to the USA).

Other large categories are iron and steel at £50 million and manufactured goods

"classified chiefly by material" at £175 million.

If the USA does eventually get an export boost from the parity changes computers and electronics might benefit although small price differences are not so crucial with sophisticated equipment. Computers and accounting machines worth £17 million were imported from the USA last year, office machinery imports were worth £83 million; machine tools, £10 million; construction machinery, £23 million; switchgear, £17 million; telecommunications equipment £14 million; electronic components, £21 million; and instruments, £15 million.

100,000 in Indian camps cannot be saved: Oxfam

Babies 'will die by the thousand'

By PETER HARVEY

More than 100,000 Pakistani babies and young children in refugee camps in India will die within the next 10 days. "Nothing can be done to save their lives, or even ease their suffering. They are finished," Oxfam's field director for India and Pakistan, Mr Raymond Cournoyer, said yesterday.

He appealed for world action to aid the refugees, and said: "Vitamin deficiencies and malnutrition now affect about 200,000 children aged between one and three years in the camps. We believe we can save the lives of a little under 50 per cent. But it is too late to do anything for the majority. They are skeletons now and there are more graves each day."

Mr Cournoyer, who flew from India to London yesterday, said relief supplies were still only a fraction of what was needed. The United Nations had appealed for £9 millions, and had received less than £2 millions from world Governments.

The Indian Government is doing all it can. It is sending food to the camps. But there

are now almost eight million people in the camps and more are still arriving each day," he said. "The food they are getting is just the minimum to keep adults alive. It does not help the young babies and children. The food does not contain the right vitamins or proteins."

"The situation in the camps has deteriorated suddenly over the past three weeks because of the cumulative effect of the lack of proper food. In more and more of our camps now we are having to appoint grave-digging squads."

Mr Cournoyer, aged 39, a French Canadian who has lived in India and Pakistan since 1958, has been in charge of the Oxfam operation since March. He has spent the past few weeks touring refugee camps and parts of East Pakistan.

His report yesterday dealt with the camps separately. "Our calculations about the certain death rate and the likely death rate are not exaggerated. If only they had been checked and double-checked the reports gathered on the spot and the reports sent in. The situation is desperate—for all the children and for the majority of the entire camp population."

He said the top priority was baby food, but another recently detected threat was a growing shortage of foods with vitamin A. "This is already beginning to affect everyone—the adults as well as the children. Reports of hundreds of people with worsening eyesight are coming in steadily, and only vitamin A can prevent eventual blindness."

The world, Mr Cournoyer said, appeared to believe a relief operation was under way in the camps. "Indeed it is—but it is not enough. I appeal for the world to act now and act together to prevent a disaster of monumental proportions."

The danger period in East Pakistan would come in September and October, when existing foodstocks were finished. "By about October three million tons of grain will be needed to tide the people over to the next harvest. So far there is no sign of that amount coming forward, in spite of repeated UN appeals."

So there are the two problems. One is immediate, the refugees. The other, the plight of the people of East Pakistan, will be upon us within six or eight weeks. We must prevent the first from worsening and if we start now, we can prevent the second from getting out of hand. But we must begin now."

Eight Britons and Americans plan to drive across the border from India into East Pakistan today with food, clothes, and medical supplies. They are sponsored by the London-based "Operation Omega."

Christian Aid has offered £100,000 towards U Thant's appeal. They are to make another £100,000 available.



Mr Cournoyer speaking in London yesterday

Penrose loses to Keene

Raymond Keene won what was probably the decisive game in this year's British Chess Championship when he beat Dr Jonathan Penrose, the former title holder, in the seventh round.

Keene now has a lead of 14 points, and is strongly placed

CHESS

to win the championship for the first time.

Penrose handled the opening stages of this vital game in too artificial a manner, conceding black the advantage of the two bishops and a superior pawn formation. Penrose said afterwards that he had over-estimated his chances of obtaining an attack on his opponent's king, and as the game proceeded it became increasingly clear that the initiative lay with black. Keene confidently increased the pressure on white's position and broke through in the centre to force a winning gain of material.

Penrose's opponent was Dr Jonathan Penrose, the former title holder, in the seventh round. Keene now has a lead of 14 points, and is strongly placed to win the championship for the first time.

Dialling the weather

Telephone users made 13 million calls—costing £260,000—during 1970 to ask "What's the weather going to be like?"

Another 1.6 million, dissatisfied with the automatic weather phone service, inquired directly from the Meteorological Office itself, while another 1.4 million wanted to know what the weather would be like for flying.

But the accuracy of the replies is not discussed in the Meteorological Office's annual report for 1970 issued yesterday.

Instead, the office says that things are going to be better next year, or the year after, when its new £2 millions computer is in operation. It will be used to make more detailed forecasts, specifying the amount and distribution of rain likely over Britain and most of Europe in the ensuing 24 to 36 hours.

'IT' allowed to appeal

The publishers of the magazine "IT" were granted leave by the Court of Appeal yesterday to appeal to the House of Lords against conviction of conspiring to corrupt public morals and outrage public decency. The charges followed an issue of the magazine containing advertisements for homosexuals.

Kneller (Publishing, Printing and Promotions) Ltd were fined £1,500, with £300 costs, at the Central Criminal Court on November 10. Three directors of the magazine—Graham Keene, Peter Stansell, and David Hall—already have leave to appeal. They received suspended prison sentences of 18 months at the same trial.



Above: Rosemary Stirling (left) and Pat Lowe, who won a bronze and a silver medal respectively in the 800 metres, arriving at Heathrow Airport-London yesterday after the European championships in Helsinki. Below: David Jenkins the Edinburgh University student, who won a gold medal—Britain's only gold—in the 400 metres



Labour faces both ways

By our Correspondent

Bilingual road signs should be erected throughout Wales, the Welsh Council of Labour, representing the Labour Party in Wales, says in a written evidence to the Bowen Committee on Bilingual Road Signs. Such signs would "sustain, encourage, and promote the use of the Welsh language."

Five years should be sufficient to complete the change. The party feels it would be sensible to change to metric measurement at the same time—sooner than in the rest of Britain.

Choice of place names should be made by the local authority concerned after consultation with local people. The party adds that road safety is an important element in deciding the size and type of signs. A compromise would have to be reached to satisfy environmental considerations, road safety, and bilingualism.

Finally, Labour calls on the Secretary of State to provide the finance without detriment to the money also needed to strengthen the effective teaching of Welsh in schools.

Ladybird swarm clears beaches

Swarms of ladybirds yesterday forced holidaymakers off beaches at Great Yarmouth during the best weather of the month.

The swarms were cleared by a change in the wind, and bathing pool attendants fished ladybirds out of the water with nets. One road was carpeted with them.

North's housing 'second best'

BY OUR OWN REPORTER

The North has for too long been satisfied with "second best" in housing, the Northern Economic Planning Council claimed in a report published yesterday. It also criticises local authorities and private developers for trying to cut costs to the detriment of the environment.

"In the past a lot of public sector housing has been

designed, often by engineers or contractors, to meet minimum requirements at the lowest possible cost. Often this resulted in barrack-like estates devoid of trees or landscaping and not conducive to local pride or 'sense of place'."

The report adds that 10 per cent of the homes in the region are unfit and that only 41 per cent of homes in the northern counties are owner-occupied compared with a national average of 51 per cent. This meant a lack of good housing for business executives.

"I think it is fair to say that firms have often complained that they cannot find good living accommodation for executives," Mr Fuller Osborn, managing director of the Northern Rock Building Society, said at a press conference. He chaired the group which produced the report.

The report says that the 25,000 houses each year improve another 25,000, and clear 11,000 slums.

The total number of houses cleared annually has never exceeded 7,600

Confidence crisis for church

By BADEN HICKMAN, Churches Correspondent

The Church of England would face "a crisis of confidence" between parish priests and ordinary churchpeople if children were allowed to receive holy communion before being confirmed, according to a pamphlet out today.

The Anglican Association says that implementation of the proposal—recommended by an official commission—would bewilder churchpeople, and reverse ancient teaching and practice.

The author, Canon W. S. T. Wright, rector of Whitburn County Durham, and a member of the association's executive, says that people would wonder if the clergy would not change their minds again, "and whether, indeed, any confidence at all can be placed in what they say."

In June, the Archbishop's Commission on Christian Initiation said, among other things, that baptism was the complete initiation, and the only sacramental prerequisite for holy communion. The report has still to be debated by the Church's General Synod.

Today's pamphlet says the sequence of baptism, confirmation, and first communion had been a familiar one to generations of English churchmen.

STOP PRESS

LIONS HOME

British Lions rugby team mobbed by hundreds of supporters mostly Welshmen, cheering and singing, on return to Heathrow last night.

Britain wants joint action

continued from page one

because of the upward float of that currency in recent weeks.

It may take much longer to agree on some of the more fundamental issues of the future conduct of international monetary affairs—especially the future role of gold, which can no longer be bought on demand by official holders of dollars.

Mr Volcker said in London yesterday that the US hopes to establish the \$35-an-ounce official gold price, and secure "a continuation of the orderly diminution of the role of gold in international affairs."

Others, however—notably the French, the Swiss, and the Japanese—are likely to argue that the status of gold should be enhanced now that the dollar has proved a dud asset—and that the Americans have no right to impose a unilateral decision amounting to a devaluation of monetary gold along with the dollar.

The danger to be averted here is the division of the world into two trading blocs, one of the countries whose currencies are convertible into gold (at a higher price), the others on a dollar standard, with little certainty of relative values between them.

These issues are now likely to play a major role, along with long-discussed measures for smoother and more frequent adjustments of parities, at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund in September. The settlement of parity changes to resolve the present crisis may not be able to wait so long—a matter of seven weeks.

The US import surcharge was accepted with apparent resignation by both foreign governments and financial markets—apart from Tokyo. There were some warnings both in the US and elsewhere of the dangers of retaliation and a trade war, but Mr Volcker reported that the possibility of retaliation was not even mentioned in his talks.

"I think our position is understood," he said. "We face great difficulties, and have tried to resolve them with measures which are in no way discriminatory, and give no comfort to any of the forces of protection. We want to keep it that way."

Killer 'being sheltered'

Someone is sheltering the killer of Janice Ersler, the police said yesterday. Janice, aged 10, of Garston, Watford, was found strangled in a park near her home last week.

Nearly 100 detectives and policemen last night finished questioning more than 2,000 factory workers on an industrial estate near where Janice's body was found.

Unions try to end shipyard wage scramble

By our own Reporter

Leaders of shipbuilding unions on Tyneside Newcastle-upon-Tyne yesterday to discuss a wage negotiating policy. At present each union has its own way.

Success could prevent the kind of spiralling over differentials which have disrupted the yards of Swan Hunter. The group's management given warnings that "leap-frogging" could close the yards.

All five of Swan Hunter's yards were working normally yesterday for the first time for four weeks following the end of the third major pay dispute faced by the group this year.

A two-week strike by 2,800 general workers closed the five yards only a few hours after they had reopened following the workers' annual fortnight's holiday.

Mr George Arnold, chairman of the Tyne district committee of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, said after a meeting of the committee yesterday that the unions had agreed that each should submit a written report within the next four weeks outlining its attitude to a common wage policy.

If the outcome were favourable the confederation would seek talks with local employers in ship repair yards. A common wage policy, if successful there, would be extended to shipbuilding.

"If one union says 'no' I think it would be a waste of time going forward," he said, however. The main obstacle to common negotiation in the past has been the attitude of the boilermakers, the highest paid shipyard workers.

About 60 ship stewards representing 3,800 Swan Hunter boilermakers decided yesterday to continue talks with the management about their claim for £3 a week more. They say it is necessary to restore a differential lost because of an award to fitters.

Mr Dan McGarvey, president of the Boilermakers' Society, said after talking to the ship stewards that a formula for negotiations about bonus payments had been worked out. "The ship stewards have given a mandate to our negotiators to be as flexible as possible in their discussions this week with the management and we use that the latter will be equally flexible in trying to get a solution."

A meeting of the 3,800 boilermakers will vote on the bonus proposals on Saturday.

Beauty by order

The Countryside Commission yesterday announced plans to designate 760 square miles of the north Wessex downs as an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Ilkley 'baht' heath

By Michael Parry

ILKLEY Moor, of white shiremen sing county anthem, is one of the most beautiful of urban heaths. At its next month the committee will report from the Wharfedale Society, a body which is being widespread over the which was once covered by heather.

The committee will whether the council think of attacking the heather, as it once was, or to leave it as it is. The heather on the lower of the moor. The National Trust has a map showing the heather areas. Surveys carried out in 1969 have shown a marked increase in berry areas. In one cotton grass bog the cover by crowberry increased 15.8 per cent to 61.9 per cent in eight years.

Mr E. K. Townsend, the urban council, a council was anxious to serve all the heather on the moor. One of the heather shoots, Mr Townsend said, was to be the crowberry.

MP bette

Mr Angus Maude, MP for North Devon, was taken unconscious by a heart attack while on duty in South Newington, Devon, on Sunday. He was 59 years old.

Mr George Dutton G been appointed chief officer in the Department of Health and Social Security.

Post fille

Mr George Dutton G been appointed chief officer in the Department of Health and Social Security.

Sunny, or rain today

A ridge of high pressure is moving slowly, while a depression is slow moving to the west. Most places will have spells, although parts of the land and Northern Ireland rather cloudy at times, with occasional rain in the north and hill fog patches.

SW England and Wales become more cloudy as the day progresses. In the north, rain may become more frequent, but not heavy. In the south, rain is possible in some areas.

Central England, a weak depression is moving slowly to the west, bringing rain to the south of England, and to the west of Scotland.

Channel Islands, becoming more sunny, but with some rain in the evening. In the north, rain is possible in some areas.

Scotland, becoming more sunny, but with some rain in the evening. In the north, rain is possible in some areas.

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THE WEATHER

SEPTEMBER IN THE RAIN

GENERALLY BELOW average mean temperatures and near average rainfall are predicted in the long-range weather forecast, issued yesterday. The last half of August is expected to be warmer and drier than the first half of September. In the first half of September there may be occasional slight air frost in a few inland places, mainly in Scotland.

Mean temperatures for the 30-day period will probably be below average in all districts, but rainfall and sunshine totals are

expected to be "near average." The Weather Centre said unsettled weather had affected most parts for the previous 30-day period with depressions over or near the British Isles on most days.

The Meteorological Office admitted that the previous 30-day forecast—which promised warm dry spells for the first half of August—had gone awry. "It is rarely possible to put a finger on any one thing and say this is where it went wrong. We expected more anti-cyclonic weather but had a great deal of cyclonic weather instead."

AROUND THE WORLD

(Lunch-time reports)

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain
Algeria	21	SE	100	0
Amman	21	SE	100	0
Baghdad	21	SE	100	0
Bombay	21	SE	100	0
Calcutta	21	SE	100	0
Cairo	21	SE	100	0
Colombo	21	SE	100	0
Dacca	21	SE	100	0
Delhi	21	SE	100	0
Dispur	21	SE	100	0
Guwahati	21	SE	100	0
Haridwar	21	SE	100	0
Imphal	21	SE	100	0
Jammu	21	SE	100	0
Kolkata	21	SE	100	0
Madras	21	SE	100	0
Mumbai	21	SE	100	0
Nagpur	21	SE	100	0
Patna	21	SE	100	0
Rangoon	21	SE	100	0
Shanghai	21	SE	100	0
Singapore	21	SE	100	0
Sri Lanka	21	SE	100	0
Taipei	21	SE	100	0
Tokyo	21	SE	100	0
Yokohama	21	SE	100	0

C, cloudy; I, fair; S, sunny.

From 7 p.m. Sunday to 7 a.m. Monday.

Yesterday: High, 17.9; Low, 12.9; Rainfall, 0.1; Wind, 11.9.

Forecast: High, 17.9; Low, 12.9; Rainfall, 0.1; Wind, 11.9.

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AROUND BRITAIN

Report for the 24 hours ended 6 p.m. yesterday.

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain
London	17	SE	100	0
Manchester	17	SE	100	0
Birmingham	17	SE	100	0
Cardiff	17	SE	100	0
Edinburgh	17	SE	100	0
Glasgow	17	SE	100	0
Liverpool	17	SE	100	0
Newcastle	17	SE	100	0
Nottingham	17	SE	100	0
Sheffield	17	SE	100	0
Sunderland	17	SE	100	0
Wolverhampton	17	SE	100	0
York	17	SE	100	0

C, cloudy; I, fair; S, sunny.

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